20 PAGES 150 FILS



A group of angry Tibetan women exiles shout anti-China slogans at a demonstration in New Delhi yesterday. About 500 Tibetans protest to mark 31st anniversary of a Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule. (Reuter wirephoto) (See Page 2)

Militants free Indian officers Kashmir action plan

By Thomas Abraham Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, March 10: India will soon have a separate minister at the centre to iteal exclusively with the Jammin and Kashmir as the government prepared to launch an action plan to tackle the problems caused by makeuns clamaning for an independent state.

The decision to appoint such a massic was resided at an all party meeting the second of these distances by Prime Minister V.P. Snigh today. Jamein and Kashmir as the govern-

convened by Frame Minister V.P.
Singa today.
Official sources said the minister would be assisted by an advisory council consisting of members drawn from various parties.
While the minister has not yet been saided, there has been media speculation that the job could go to Railway Minister George Fernandes, who is said to have already des, who is said to have already established some important contacts in the state during the past few days.

The new minister and the advisory

Gorbachev needs rest: Soviet leader Mik-

"Sometimes Gorbachev loses his temper,

sometimes he'd do better not to speak — he works too much and should think about having n rest because

his health is important," Medvedev told reporters at

a congress of the Italian Communist Party. (Reuter)

Avril resigns: Lt Gen. Prosper Avril, turned

over power to another general on Saturday, the independent television station Tele-Hain reported.

Thereport, which could not be immediately confirmed; said Avril handed power over to Gen. Herard Abraham, the Army chief of staff who is to govern for

48 hours until an interim government takes over within 72 hours. (AP) (See Page 5)

East Beirut clash: Rival Christian forces cla-

shed in East Beirut for the second day on Saturday, violating the ceasefire in their month-long war. Security sources said groops leyal to General Michel Aoun and Lebanese Forces (LF) militiamen

exchanged machine-gun-fire and rocket-propelled grenades in the Sin El Fil neighbourhood.

Gunmen kill Turkish policeman: Assailants

armed with antomatic weapons shot dead a

policeman in central istanbul on Saturday then seized two hostages in an empty building and held off

Women at work: Almost a million women are

now their own bosses in the UK as a "revolution" sweeps. British working life, it was reported in Lon-

police with heavy gunfire, police said.

coincil will have the primary job of finding means to resume the political process in the state and restore nor-

The only other such precedent in India was way back in 1971 when prime minister Indira Gandhi appointed Sidhartha Shankar Ray to look after the affairs of West Bengal when that state was plagued by the growing militancy of Nazalites. Chances of an early resumption of

the political process in the state had brightened considerably after the wait of an all-pairty delegation to Sinagar Thursday for a first-hand assessment of the situation.

The delegation, led by Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal and comprising leaders of all important parties, including Congress president Pair

Gandhi, was briefed in Srinagar by Governor Jagmohan. The gravity of the situation can be guaged by the fact that the team had to remain confined to its hotel, with the authorities advising them against visiting the city and meeting people.

. The Srinagar visit followed an all-

party meeting at the prime minister's residence. Wednesday to evolve a national consensus on what is widely

problems facing independent India.

A joint statement issued after the meeting said Pakistan's attempts to internationalise the Kashmir issue from time to time, the rise of fun-damentalist, and secessionist elements in the valley and their anti-national stance had viriated the situation in the state.

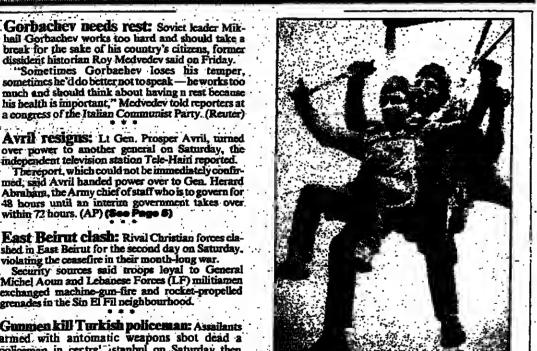
The prime minister reiterated at

the meeting that the special status of the state under article 370 of the constitution would be preserved and protected in letter and spirit.

Meanwhile, in Srinagar, five police intelligence officers, abducted nt use day defore by K miri Muslim separatists, were freed before dawn today, Jagmohan said.

Arabia, the world's largest oil expor-ter, has spent some \$10 billion on 15 petrochemical plants and two indus-The governor said the five men trial cities in the desert capturing betwere released unharmed after gover-nment loudspeakers blared all-night ween four and five per cent of the world market. warnings that "strong action" would be taken if the kidnapped officers producers were meeting in Bahrain

(Continued on Page 2)



Hitting the ground

East Garman Communist Party chief Grego Gysi (foreground) prepares to hit the ground after jumping from a small aircraft in Firederadorf near East Berlin. He was aided in his descent by a professional parachutist.

Iraq sentences journalist to death

LONDON, March 10, (AP): A London-based journalist has been sentenced to death in Iraq on spying charges and a British nurse bas been jailed for 15 years for allegedly helping him, the Foreign Office

An Iraqi who was in contact with journalist Farzad Bazoft in Baghdad was given a 10 year sentence for communicating government secrets to a foreigner, it said.

There was no indication of when the execution would be carried out.

Bazoft, a 31-year-old stateless Iranian exile who travels with British documents and works for London's weekly Observer newspaper, was arrested in September while investigating reports of an explosion at an Iraqi military plant. Nurse Daphne Parish, 52, was accused of helping him by driving

sector in taking the initiative to set up related industries based on the com-plex's products," Hussein said.

The project would use naphtha

and natural gas as feedstocks to produce low and high density

polyethylene, ethylene glycol, polys-

tyrene, styrene monomer, styrene butadiene and aromatics. Produc-

tion could start by 1994/1995.

Kuwait's domestic refineries

produce an abundance of naphtha. It

will either import gas or increase production of associated gas from its

oil fields, experts say.

Studies made for Kuwait by international companies projected an increase in world demand for petro-

Officials from six Gulf Arab oil

loday to co-ordinate a strategy to

increase their petrochemicals market share and explore the possibility of

forming a joint shipping company to

export their products.

The two-day conference, attended

hy around 200 delegates from the six

Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) countries, will also discuss challenges

from the European Economic Com-

munity, which imposes stiff import tariffs on key petrochemical

Bahrain's Industry Minister

Yousef Shirawi said in an opening

address the GCC could not compete

managed to unify its own customs

"Without unified customs duties

used in your negotiations, the world will neither respect you nor other Gulf industries," he said.

The European Economic Com-munity, which takes about a third of

GCC petrochemical exports, has imposed tariffs of up to 13.5 per cent on some products to protect its local

Gulf officials are trying to per-suade the community, its main trad-ing partner, to lift the barriers. But the Europeans say the GCC must

unify its customs policies before n free trade pact can be negotiated. Community foreign ministers last

December agreed a mandate for a free trade pact that includes a lengthy

transition period before quotas and

The conference is expected to dis-

euss transport, banking and insurance aspects of the industry.

Executives also want investment in

secondary or downstream chemicals

(Continued on Page 2)

- which use primary chemicals like

duties are scrapped.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, "horrified by the severity of the sentence" against Bazoft, will appeal to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for clemency on humanitarian grounds, said a spokesman who by eustom was not identified.

Junior Foreign Office Minister William Wal-

degrave said the government was concentrating on 'the immediate next few hours," to get the death sentence lifted.

"We rule out no thing," he said, adding the government was considering sending a top-level emissary to Baghdad. Asked at a news conference if Foreign Secretary Sir Douglas Hurd might go, Waldegrave said every possibility was being considered.

The sentences, if carried out, "are bound to have a (Continued on Page 2)





Kuwait plans mega-plant

\$2b petrochemical project discussed

KUWAIT, March 10, (Reuter): Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa met Kuwait's top planners today to seek approval for a \$2 billion petrochemical project.

Officials had anticipated "a long session" but the supreme planning council, headed by HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah. broke up after an hour and decided to take another look at the plans next week. Officials said Sheikh Ali later met privately with members of the council, which includes the finance and planning ministers and the Central Bank governor.

"The members focused in their talks on the time frame for the project and its impact on developing human resources and the role of the private

"The meeting started with a presentation by Sheikh Ali on the project and decided to meet again next week," an official told Reuters.

Council endorsement is crucial for the eight-plant project, which is expected to be open for international bidding.

The official Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) quoted council secretary general Fouad Mulla Hussein as saying the Crown Prince "stressed the importance and vitality of the project" during the meeting.

Israelis kill two Arabs in violence

March 10, (Reuter): Israeli police shot dead two Palestinians in East Jerusalem today in protests stoked hy Arab anger at plans to settle Jewish immigrants among

Police said fighting started in Shuafat Palestinian refugee camp last night as demonstrators marked the start of the 28tb month of the Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinians identified the dead as Mahmoud Abu. Khalifeh, 20, and Sufian Abu Mayyaleh, 32, a father of 12. At least eight Palestinians were wounded, one of them a 14-year-

old boy in critical condition. Arab shops across the city closed in mourning as angry residents fought police with stones and bottles and overturned an Israeli car outside the ancient walls of the old city.

Police, who stopped journalists entering the refugee camp, drove along the narrow dirt streets calling on the 7,000 residents to stay inside their "Anybody who does not obey

will be sbot," they shouted through loudspeakers. Palestinians said border police shot Khalifeb during stone-thr-

owing clashes early today but

Rajiv in Srinagar

they hold responsible for his death.

Rajiv Gandhi (2nd from right) talking to reporters in a Srinagar hotel before leaving for Delhi with the delegation. (Reuter wirephoto)

Brigadier-General Oscar Florendo, a popular officer who was killed

last Sunday in a short-lived revolt by suspended governor Rodolfo

Aguinaldo, was buried in the National Heroes Cemetery in the main

Thousands of mourners attended the ceremony for Florendo, a

respected general credited with improving the image of a military

widely seen as corrupt during the 20-year rule of late dictator Ferdinand

A convoy of military vehicles escorted Florendo's body to the

Dozens of white balloons symbolising peace were released after the

Aguinaldo, the governor of northern Cagayan province, fled after

government troops launched a counter-attack to end his occupation of the provincial capital of Tuguegarao.

cemetery in Fort Bonifacio military camp. Defence Secretary Fidel

Ramos represented President Corazon Aquino at the burial rites.

flag-draped casket was lowered into the ground.

Abu Mayyaleh was a bystander caught in fighting that erupted following the hurial.

Police said they would inves-tigate the deaths, which took the toll of Palestinians killed by Israelis during the revolt to at least 629.

Another 191 Arabs have been killed hy Palestinians, mostly as suspected collaborators, and 44 Jews have died.

Shuafat is near the site where Israel was to start building 3,000 new Jewish bomes today in defiance of US objections to settling more Jewish immigrants in Arab East Jerusalem. US President George Bush last weekend publicly opposed any increase in Jewish settlement in

Arab East Jerusalem, annexed by Israel after it was captured from Jordan in the 1967 Middle Some 500 Arab and Israeli

women calling for establishment of a Palestinian state demonstrated this afternoon along the old no-man's land that separated Israeli and Arah sides of Jerusalem before 1967.

Leftist Israeli politicians appealed at the gathering for the coalition government to accept US proposals for peace talks with Palestinians when the cabinet meets tomorrow.



This two-year-old girl waits to die in the Victor Babes Hospital in

Ransom for freedom deal is under way

Bush ... whacked

BEIRUT, March 10, (Agencies): Unofficial American negotiators have had direct contacts with the eaptors of 18 Westerners believed held in Lebanon and are working on a deal to pay ransom for the hostages' releases, the leading Lebanese magazine Ash

Ash Shiraa, which has good contacts among Islamic fundamentalists and was the magazine that first broke the story of the US Iran-Contra arms-for-hostages scandal, said Anglican church envoy Terry Waite may be the first hostage

The deal would involve all 18 Western hostages believed held by pro-Iranian Shiite extremists in Lehanon, including eight

"US figures with no official capacity have been engaged in

direct contacts with the captors, focusing on a proposed deal to pay some money in exchange for realising hostages," Ash Shiraa In Washington, Deputy White

win release of the hostages. The newspaper report came one day after the White House acknowledged President Bush had been the target of ahoax over the bostage issue. Bush, hoping to win the freedom of the hostages, talked by telephone to a man elaiming to be Iranian President Ali Akhar Hashemi Rafsanjani, but the call proved to be a hoax.

White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater said yesterday as a result the telephone hoax, and concerns raised by it, the administration would no longer say whether there are contacts between the United States and Iran over the fate of the American hostages.

Ash Shiraa also said secret US-Iranian diplomatic contacts took place recently, but said no details were available.

Bush denied early this month that the US was participating in secret talks aimed at winning

Rafsanjani said Wednesday

the issue of the hostages "is going to be solved," but he set no timetable for the release of the captives and said Iran was not negotiating with the US on the release of the hostages.

Looking at death

Bucharest. The weeping girl is confirmed to have Aids. (Reuter wire-

Shiraa has said.

freed in the proposed deal.

Americans, the magazine said.

freedom for the hostages.

House Press Secretary Roman Popadiuk said he was unaware of any such dealings, but again noted, "there are plenty of people out there talking," trying to

CLOUDY weather with moderate southeasterly wind may freshen at times with a chance of scattered rain. State of sea: slight to moderate. Highwater, 12.00 pm. Low water, 7.00 am, 7.00 pm. 13°0 % Suprise: 6.03 am 2827 E Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 26°C 79°F Ahmadi: 24°C 75°F Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait 16°C 51°F Ahmadi 16°C 61°F Fallaka: 16°C 61°F

Ahmadi: 24°C 75°F

Failaka: 24°C 75°F Maximum humdity

Kuwait 41 per cent Ahmadi: 43 per cent

don on Saturday.

CLOUDY weather with moderate

TION

990

2

25

Death fall

AN Indian AC mechanic yesterday fell to his death from the 11th floor of the telecommunication centre under construction. The victim, identified as Morarji Jivaram, was working on the air-conditioning duct on the 11th floor. The police and doctors arrived on the scene immediately. No further detrus w. e available.

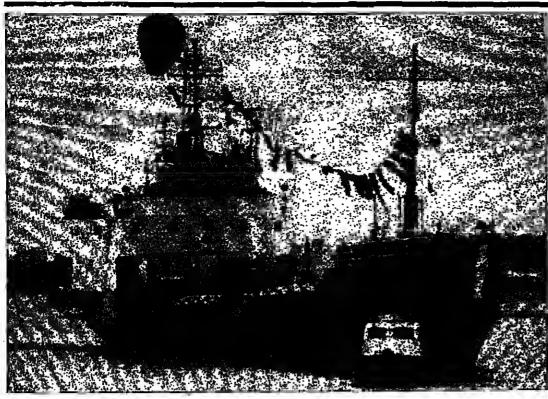
Nuclear test

YUCCA FLAT, Nevada, March 10, (UPI): A nuclear weapon detonated 1,500 feet (450m) beneath the Nevada desert today generated the force of n moderate earthquake that was felt by some observers on highrise gambling resorts 85 miles (135 km) away in Las Vegas.

Slain Filipino general given hero's burial MANILA, March 10, (Reuter): A Philippine general was given a hero's burial today as soldiers continued to hunt down the rebellious governor



Military officers and classmates of Florendo lower his Dag-draped casket in buria! rites at the National Heroes Cemetery in Manila. (Reuter wirephoto)



'Goddess of Democracy'

Tha freedom ship 'Goddess of Democracy' enters the port of La Rochalle, south western France. Franch and foreign media, human rights campaigners and dissidents have given \$1.3 million to launch the ship which exiled dissidents plan to sail to China to transmit pirata broadcasts. (Reuter wirephoto)

Hun Sen supports Thai plan

BANGKOK, March 10, (UPI): Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnamese-backed government in Camhodia supports a new Thai plan to close existing refugee camps and either send inmates back to Cambodia or put them in neutral, UN-con-trolled camps, Phnom Penh radio said today.

"The government of the state of Cambodia is ready to cooperate with the kingdom of Thailand and various internatonal organisations in arranging repatriation of all Cambodian refugees," said a radio announcer reading the text of an interview with Hun Sen.

Hun Sen said the returning refugees "will enjoy the same rights as Cambodian citizens living inside the country - namely, the right to vote and to stand for

He said those with qualifications would be given appropriate jobs and farmers would be given

Hun Sen also supported Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan's plans, announced last week to remove refugees from the control of the three resistance groups and placed in

The Cambodian leader said that for the security of the refugees they should be moved away from the border and from the armed resistance groups operating there.

150 hurt in Bangla poll clashes

DHAKA, March 10, (AP): At least 150 people were injured in two cities

when rival political camps working toward next week's elections hurled

The clashes occurred yesterday in Khulna, a river port city 135 kilometres (85 miles) southwest of Dhaka, and in Jessore, about 50

The independent Bengali newspaper Khabar said about 100 people

The trouble started when the two groups tried to welcome Civil

were injured in clashes between supporters of two candidates from President Hussain Muhammad Ershad's Jatiya Party.

Aviation Minister Abdul Gaffar, who had come to Khulna to address a

public rally, the newspaper said. Both groups claimed their candidate

The local council elections, which are historically the most violent in Bangladesh, are scheduled for March 14-25. They are non-partisan, but

clashes usually erupt along party lines because local voters know the party affiliations of the technically independent candidates.

supporters of the Jatiya Party and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, according to another independent Bengali daily, Bangla Bani. The

Nationalist Party, headed by Khaleda Zia, is one of the country's

Last week, two people were shot to death in campaign violence in the

In Jessore, at least 50 people were injured in clashes between

rocks and homhs at one another, newspapers said today.

kilometres (30 miles) northwest of Khulna.

had the Jatiya Party's support.

biggest opposition parties.

country's northwestern Pabna district.

Reshuffle in China likely

Key party meeting begins

BEUING, March 10, (Reuter): The Central Committee of China's ruling Communist Party was believed to be holding a key meeting to help cope with grow-ing international isolation and tighten ideological control,

diplomats said today.

They said a shake-up involving several cabinet posts was expected, though no officials above the level of vice-premier or minister were likely to be affec-

"We have seen evidence of lots of official cars moving around and some sort of senior meeting is being held," said a Western

It was unclear if the Central Committee plenum had already begun or whether this was part of a preparatory meeting. But the full plenum was likely to be concluded by Tuesday or Wednes-day so that Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin could leave for a scheduled visit to North Korea.

Since China's Central Committee last met in November, Beijing has seen its once staunch supporters in Eastern Europe succumh to demands for democratie ehange and share

power with non-communists. China has been alarmed at the reforms sweeping across Eastern Europe, particularly at a time when relations with the West are hadly strained hy its bloody crackdown on a pro-democracy movement last June.

Normally, policy affecting foreign relations is left to the Central Committee's Polithuro. But the procedural change reflected the depth of Beijing's problems, diplomats said.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has been hlamed in internal party documents for the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe. But publicly, Beijing has insisted that the changes are solely an internal matter for the countries concerned and that it will not interfere.

Diplomats said official publications had refrained from commenting on events in Eastern Europe and this policy was likely to be maintained, especially before Premier Li Peng's planned visit to Moscow in April.

"I don't expect any decision eriticising Gorbachev — not with Li Peng planning to visit Moscow," said an Eastern European diplomat.

Chinese officials said this week the plenum would start soon. It would deal with the issue of maintaining links with the nation's one billion people.

Foreign diplomats interpreted this as meaning Beijing would maintain tight ideological controls to prevent any serious ehallenge to its anthority.

cheap gas supplies.
Industry sources say Gulf coun-

tries now have an annual petro-chemical and fertiliser capacity of

over eleven million tonnes.
Gulf officials are optimistic rising world demand can enable them to

boost petrochemical output.

Despite its advantage from cheap
gas, the export-oriented Gulf indus-

tries are vulnerable to world price

and demand fluctuations. The

domestic market is too small 10

absorb output.

But industry sources say rising costs in the West and environmental

concerns will give them a long-term

Iraq sentences Bazoft to death

(Continued from Page 1) far-reaching effect on bilateral relations between the two coun-tries," he added.

Bazoft and Parish went on trial Thursday, charged with committing hostile acts against lraq. The Iraqi, identified only as Rahim,

was tried with them.
The revolutionary court proceedings, which were not open to the public, adjourned

after five hours.

The Foreign Office said a British diplomat was in court today to hear the sentences passed and immediately telephoned the outcome to London.

Under Iraqi law, no appeal is allowed.

We utterly deplore these harshand excessive sentences," a Foreign Office statement said.

Iraq's Ambassador to Britain,
Dr Azmi Shafiq Al Salihi, was
being summoned to the Foreign
Office to be told of the government's "utter dismay" and an
appeal for clemency was being
made to Saddam, the Foreign Office said.

"No evidence was produced at the trial which would justify sen-tences of this severity." the Foreign Office said. "They come ill from a regime which is trying to show a more liberal face to the

In November, Bazoft said on Iraqi state television that he had been spying for Israel. Observer Editor Donald Treiford said the paper was certain that Bazoft was not spying for anyone and had made the so-called confession under duress.

In a statement today, Trelford said Bazoft had said at his trial that the TV confession was made under duress, but it had been admitted as evidence nonethe-

"The sentences are barbaric and unjust," Trefford said. "Our first objective is to have the death sentence lifted prior to their release and return to Britain."

Parish, a senior nursing administrator for the Irish-run, Ibn Al Bitar Hospital in Baghdad, did not appear in the broadcast

The explosion at a military complex was reported in London to have killed up to 700 people, but the Iraqis later said 19 people were killed in a fuel depot blast.

Trelford said Bazoft had sought official permission to visit

the Al Iskandaria military com-plex south of Baghdad, had told the paper's foreign desk of his movements, and had talked openly about the visit to press

Trefford called on Britain to withdraw its ambassador from Baghdad and cancel offers of export credits to fraq. He urged international press and human rights groups to campaign for justice for Bazoft and Parish and urged all British news organisa-tions to boycott Iraq until the safety of journalists is guaran-

Kashmir action plan

(Continued from Page 1)

were not released. The State Department warned US citizens not to travel to violence-

In a statement, the State Depart-ment said, "unrest and violence contimue in Jammu and Kashmir," the sites of massive pro-independence uprisings by Muslim residents in

recent months.

The State Department said travel to Srinagar, Kashmir valley and surrounding areas should be delayed

ned to exercise "special caution" and avoid bus or train travel as the State Department reports sporadic incidents of political and criminal

Kuwait plans (Continued from Page 1)

ethylene and methanol as raw material — to increase competitive-In an attempt to reduce dependence on oil, Gulf Arab states have pumped billions of dollars into petrochemical plants in the past decade, making use of abundant and

certain Indian Airlines flights.

In Punjab, US citizens were war-

Bangkok sinking: experts

BANGKOK, March to, (Reuter): Bangkok has sunk 160 cm (62 inches) in the past 30 years and will sink further because of haphazard building on the crowd capital's outskirts, Thai experts said. A study, reported in the Bangkok Post newspaper today, by a team of

engineers said the city was sinking because over a million cubic metres of soil water was being extracted daily leading to soil compression.

"For 15 metres (50 feet) down there is nothing but mud," team leader Professor Prinya Nutalaya said. "We must add more water to stop the soil compressing further.

Bangkok's population has tripled in the past 30 years to nearly eight million people. It's water demand has outstripped surface water supplies, the study by the Asian Institute of Technology said.

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with Kuwait experience for a reputed leading contracting company. Please call 2409429.

Hindus attack police: 4 killed

AMRITSAR, India, March 10, (Reuter): At least four people were killed today when police fired on an angry Hindu crowd protesting against Sikh militant violence in the Indian border state of Punjah.

Several people were injured, police said, when the crowd besieged a police station in Abohar denouncing a bomh and gunfire assault by Sikh extremists that killed 31 people in the town marketplace last Wednesday. Police said they opened fire on today's crowd, led by Hindu political activists, after at throwing. Abohar is a Hindu-majority enclave in Punjah, where Sikh militants demand a separate homeland.

At least 450 people have been killed so far this year in the Sikh militants' campaing for Khalistan or "land of the pure."

They exploded two bombs in Abohar on Wednesday, then drove up to the marketplace in a jeep and fired on evening shoppers. The town went on general strike on Thursday in protest against the killings.
Police said they first tried to quell today protest using clubs but had to open fire in self-

Abohar is in Punjah's southwest corner about 235 km (145 miles) southwest of the Sikh holy city of Amritsar...

Sikhs, who number less than two percent o India's 810 million people, form a slin majority in the prosperous farming state of

Indonesia plans to execute coup men

Human rights bodies protest

JAKARTA, March 10, (Agencies): Human rights organisations protested today against the government's plans to execute hy firing squad six prisoners convicted of taking part in a communist conp

attempt 25 years ago.
The chief of the armed forces rejected the criticism as interference in Indonesia's domestie

Lawyer Johannes C. Princen, director of the institute for the defence of human rights, said the six prisoners were taken from their cells in Jakarta's Cipinang prison on March S. He said their families were notified of the planned executions.

Princen said in an interview there was speculation that the justice minister and attorney general were not available or would not sign the execution

The executions were believed to be planned for Saturday or Sunday, Princen said.

"This is a matter for the attorney general," Justice Minister Ismail Saleh told reporters today at the installation of a new air force chief of staff. At the same ceremony, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and State Secretary Murdiono, avoided questions hy

Armed forces chief of staff Gen. Try Sutrisno said it was an internal matter involving Indonesia's sovereignty and of no con-cern to outsiders. He said he would announce the executions - if and when they were carried

"Although the verdict was taken along time ago, implementation of the executions has to wait for the right time," he said.

In addition to Princen's organisation, protests were lodged hy the 12-nation European Community, the London-hased Amnesty International and the Netherlands government.

If the executions are carried out, said Amnesty International, they would bring to 32 the number of people killed by firing squad since 1985 in Indonesia, compared to four in the previous 10 years. Four former palace. guards were executed in mid-February for their part in the abortive coup against the late president Sukarno.

Premier Ruud Lubbers yesterday offered political asylum in the Netherlands for the six prisoners. The Netherlands froze a 27-million guilder (\$12.5 million) aid package to its former colony after the February executions, but a 192-million guilder (\$90 million) assistance programme is being continued. Indonesia, once the Dutch East Indies, gained indepen-dence in 1949 after four years of

Those facing execution are:

• Rusland Widjayasastra, 70, arrested on July 14, 1968 and charged with subversion and criminal plotting against the state for his part in the uprising. He was sentenced to death on July 15, 1974 by a special military

court. Sukatno, 60, arrested on July 21, 1968 and sentenced to death on March 11, 1971.

 Iskandar Snbekti, 67, arrested on July 31, 1968 and given the death penalty on Dec 22, 1972. Asep Suryaman, 62, arrested on Sept 28, 1971 and charged with trying to overthrow the

government.

I. Bungkus, 61, arrested on Oct 8, 1965 while serving as an army sergeant and sentenced on July 30, 1971 to be shot Marsudi, 53, a sergeant

major in the air force at the time of the coup. The date of his arrest is not known but he was sentenced to death on Oct 9, 1968.

In a letter to President Suharto dated Friday, Princen said foreign sources reported the death sentences already had been carried out. If not, he appealed against the executions on humanitarian grounds.

Lanka's rebel CM will go into 'exile'

TRINCOMALEE, March 10, late 30s, said staying behind in (Reuter): The Tamil who has served as chief minister of Sri Lanka's strife-torn northeast province under the protection of the Indian army says he will go into exile or fight as a guerrilla after his Indian backers leave this month.

Varatharaja Perumal resigned on March 1, and renamed the provincial council as a Tamil National Assembly, but many saw the moves as the last political acts of a desperate man who had opposed the most powerful Tamil separatist group.

With the last Indians expected to leave the northeast by the end of March and with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam strengthening their grip on the region, the future looks hieak for Perumal and his group, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF).

"I have two options: I can go to the jungle, where I would need militarily training to live as a guerrilla or 1 can go overseas to continue working for our cause," he said in an interview late yester-

day.

Speaking at his heavily guarded home in the port of Trincomalee, be vowed to continue struggling to win more autonomy for the northeast, where most of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamils live. The central government in Colombo is dominated by the Sinhalese majority. Perumal, a stocky man in his

the provincial capital after the Indian withdrawal was not an "I'm not a fool. I don't want to

be killed," he said. He declined to say where he and his family might go in exile, though many people expect him to go to India, whose troops

supervised provincial elections that brought him to power. Foreign Affairs Minister Ranjan Wijeratne told Parliament, Perumal is like a crah in a pot.

When the water boils the crab cannot survive." Pernmal is not optimistie about Colombo granting more autonomy to the northeast and said that fighting could even-tually flare up again between the

Sri Lankan army and the Tigers after the Indian withdrawal. He said his departure would hurt chances for a negotiated settlement of the Tamil conflict.

"I don't think there will be another person who can be so patient with the Sri Lanka government," he said. • The Sri Lankan police have

been given the anthority to search any hotel, guest house and private houses for firearms. Wijeratne, told a press conference.

Wijeratne said though the armed forces are not permitted to enter such places and conduct searches, the police, who are on a 24-hour duty could do so.

Rice cooked in pipes kills eight Thais

SINGAPORE, March 10, (AP): Eight Thai workers here have died of heart failure this year after eating glutinous rice cooked in pipes made of polyvinyl chloride, it was reported today.

The Straits Times quoted Thai embassy sources as saying that following the deaths, tests were performed on polyvinyl chloride pipes — commonly used at construction sites as substitutes for cooking pots.

The tests performed by the Working Safety Institute in Bangkok showed that when heated to between 100 and 120 degrees Celsius, (212 and 248 Fahrenheit) the pipes gave off deadly hydrogen chloride.

Senior forensic pathologist Chao Tzee Cheong told the newspaper that autopsies on the Thais showed they had died of cardiac respiratory failure. He said further tests were necessary to establish a link between the cooking of rice in the pipes and the death of the workers.

The Thai Embassy has handed out leaflets to construction workers to warn Thai workers

of the danger. The newspaper quoted police sources as saying seven workers died in January and another in the first week of February.

Third general strike called

Nepal reformists to keep up pressure KATHMANDU, March 10, dismantling of the 29-year-old claim and accused the govern-ment of violence during the first

(UPI): Organisers of Nepal's three-week-old movement pressing for greater democracy vowed to continue their campaign with a third general strike next week as reports of further unrest reached Government and independent reports said police and demonstrators elashed in the village of

Duhavion Thursday when about 30 demonstrators took part in a torchlight procession.

Official reports said five people were wounded when police with batons charged the demon-

strators, but independent reports said at least 18 people were injured, including Hari Lamsal, the President of the Nepal Paramedical Association. On Friday, demonstrators burnt effigies in many places of

the Himalayan kingdom, includ-

ing the capital, demanding the

system introduced in December 1960 after an 18-month experiment with a British parliamentary style of govern-Organisers of the prodemocracy movement, which

has been concentrated mainly in

the east and central districts and

the urban areas, called for a third general strike on Wednesday to press their demands. Students are in the forefront of the movement, hut doctors, lawyers, teachers and other professionals have joined by

protesting that they have become victims of police brutality and human rights abuses. The government says the movement was taken over by communists from the moderate

opposition group Nepali Congress, but the group denied the

three days of the movement when at least 13 people were killed. Although they differ widely on national and international issues, the Nepali Congress and the factionalised Communist

Party wings began a movement Feb 18 on a common platform of restoring multi-party democracy in Nepal. Most of the senior Congress and communist leadership are behind bars, but the movement is now being conducted by lower-ranking leaders from their

In an effort to stifle the opposition press, the government has reportedly been seizing copies from the streets and newspapers have said at least 29 journalists have been arrested. The government denies the reports.

Tibetans protest Chinese control

DHARMSALA, March 10. (Agencies): The Dalai Lama addressing more than 10,000 Tihetan exiles on the 31st anniversary of a failed uprising against Chinese rule, said today that Tibetans must continue the quest for freedom.

The positive changes that took place in eastern Europe are a clear indication that truth and desire for peace cannot remain suppressed," said the Tibetan temporal and spiritual leader, who won the 1989 Nobel peace The Dalai Lama, revered as a

god-king by his followers, fled the Tibetan capital of Lhasa on March 17, 1959, a week after the start of the revolt against China He made his way across the snow-covered Himalayan mountains to india and eventually to Dharmsala, which now serves as the seat of his government-in-exile. "Being political refugees, we must work towards political freedom," he told the crowd gathered outside the Buddhist

The kehen Choeling temple. The Tibetans in Tibet have a greater responsibility for the future of Tibet, especially the youngsters and even those Tibetan cadres working for the The Dalai Lama yesterday cautioned China "before it is

too late" to follow the Soviet Union's lead, end Beijing sironfisted rule and allow greater freedom in the Himalayan country.
"It is imperative. I believe for China to learn a lesson from the Soviet Union and in particular.

to follow the example set by President Gorbachev, who is seeking to solve similar problems through dialogue and compromise, "he said. The Chinese leadership must look at the ... Tibetan issue with new eyes and fresh minds Before it is too late, they must

listen to the voice of reason,

nou-violence and moderation which is spoken by the Tibetan police," he said.

After the ceremony in which the Tibetan flag was raised thousands of Tibetans and hundreds of foreigners who had travelled here for the anniversary staged an 8-kilometre-long protest march through this town in the Himalayan footbills

of northern India. In New Delhi, about 1,000 Tibetans burned a Chinese flag and chanted their demands for freedom at India Gate, a soaring stone arch commemoration Indians who died in military

service for their colonial British Tibet, a rugged and remote enclave high in the Himalayas, was invaded by Chinese froops in 1950. China maintains Tibel has traditionally been part of China, but the Dalai Lama and his followers say Tibet has been

10 drowned as

independent for centuries.

barge breaks up NEW DELHI, March 10, (AP): At least 10 people drowned yes terday when a manimoth stone statute of Lord Buddha slid off a barge in a lake at the central ludian city of Hyderabad United News of India said

About 50 people were aboard the barge at the time of the accident, the news agency said. Many of them managed to swim to shore, about 100 metres (300 feet) away, it added.
United News quoted Hyderbad Police Commissioner Prab-

hakar Rao as saying some bodies may have been trapped under the 350-tonnes red granite statue, which sank in 25 metres (80 feet) of water in Hussain Sabar Lake.

The news agency quoted wit-nesses and a survivor as saying the giant statue slid off its trailer and the barge broke up.

Navy divers were dispatched to Hyderabad, 1,200 kilometres (345 miles) southeast of New Delhi, to assist in search and

salvage operations.

The barge was being lowed to a rock in the centre of the lake.

where the statue was to be erec-

OBITUARY All partners and staff of the ARAB AUDIT BUREAU express their deep sorrow and

extreme shock at the sudden death of their

long time colleague and office secretary

GWYNETH DIAS REBELLO. She will be

friend. May her soul rest in peace.

remembered by all as a loyal and sincere

ASSESSED THE AND PLACES OF THE LONDON: Vanessa Redgrave will co-star with her sister, Lyan, and daughter, Joely Richardson, in Caskber's play "Three Sisters," the

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producer says.

The opening night in November will mark the first time the sisters

have performed publicly together, said producer Thelma Holt. she said the two had performed an acclaimed excerpt from the play in New York in December at a private celebrity gala to mark the opening of the Berlin Wall. The third enter was placed by Signature third sister was played by Sigourney

Lynn, who turns 47 on Thursday, has been living in Los Angeles for many years and has not worked on the British stage since 1973. "I always felt that to justify spending so long away it would have to be something very special for me to return," said Lynn, who received an Academy Award nomination for her role in the 1966 film "Georgy Girl."

Lynn said the and Venesca 53

Lynn said she and Vanessa, 53, who received the Academy Award for her performance in the 1977 film "Julia," had wanted to act together for many years.
Anton Chekhov wrote "Three

Sisters" in 1901. (AP)

DAYTON, Ohio: An opposum with an orange hairdo has museum officials mystified. Orange opposums are unheard of

among experis, the museum staff said Monday. "We're sure she hasn't been dyed or anything like that," said Holly
Coovert, and assistant curator at the
Dayton Museum of Natural History.

"She's just orange." "We're trying to figure it out," said Tom Hissong, the curator of education. "All our veterinarians can figure is it's a genetic defect."

The year-old opossum, known only as "OP," was donated by a family who raised her from infancy.

"They found two in the same litter that were orange," Ms Coovert said. "One got loose later, and the family dog munched it." Hair samples from the opossum have been sent for analysis to state wildlife experts. (AP)

LAKELAND, Florida: A chewing tobacco company's offer to pay the secret \$25,000 to sponsor a softball urnament was turned down by city commissioners, who last year banned smoking in city hall. Commissioners voted 5-1

Monday to refuse the offer from Pinkerton Tobacco Company.

"It looks very hypocritical for us
to ban smoking in city hall and turn around and take their \$25,000,"

said Mayor Frank O'Reflly.
Pinkerton Tobacco wanted to distribute free samples of chewing tobacco, post promotional banners' and put the company symbol on trophies awarded at the national softball tournament in September in

Lakeland, The \$25,000 would have been more than enough to cover the city's costs in losting the tournament.
The rest of the money would have gone to the city's general fund; said Ed Gandy, director of parks and recreation (AP)

Sartre

Manuscript on auction

PARIS, March 10, (UPI): A large portion of the late philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre's essay on the classical French novelist Gustave Flanbert will go oo the auction block next Monday with an estimated price of between 526,000 and \$31,000, officials at the Drouot Auction House said Thursday.

The manuscript, entitled "The Idiot of The Family," represents 95 per cent of the work as it was published in 1972.

The work, described as a psy-choanalytic study of the French writer, will be auctioned along with several other Sartre essays written between 1970 and 1972 on such diverse subjects as racism, prisons, the Palestinian issue and the need to create a new newspaper called "J'Accuse."

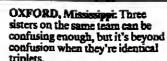
ATLANTA, Georgia: Fresh from a key negotiating role in Nicaragua, former president Jimmy Carter is departing Sunday for Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Israel oo a fact-finding tria with his wife Rossalyon.

trip with his wife, Rosalynn.

This trip will provide us with a firsthand view of the economic and social issues that now dominate the political agendas of Middle Eastern states, and will enrich our understanding of the sensitive issues associated with the Israeli-

associated with the israeli-Palestinian negotiations," said. Kenneth Stata, director of the Middle Eastern Studies Programme at the Carter Centre of Emory Stein will accompany the Carters, who returned last week from

Nicaragua, where they led an election observer team and helped in negotiations afterward between the ruling Seedinista Party and the victorious opposition. (AP)



triplets.
"It's really funny," said Bossie Collins, who is on the same track team as her sisters, Betty and Bobbie. "People will look at us and say, 'look here, they all have ...'
" ... The same faces, " chimed

in Bobbie and Betty. The sisters lonk so much alike that it is difficult even for family members to tell them apart.

Beiog good sisters is what makes them strong, Betty said. "I think God put us here as triplets to be stronger than if we were born a year apart instead of only five minutes. I think he had a plan for us."

Bonnie agreed and said that being triplets also is a case of strength in oumbers. "With 10 older brothers and sisters, it would've been hard

for one girl to be the only youngest," she said. The triplets are Iresse Collins' 11th, 12th and 13th children, and although they are 21 years old, their mother still calls them her babies.

GRANBURY, Texas: "The Benny Hop" has been banned on the Granbury Queen riverboat for fear the bouncy swing number will

capsize the dinner-cruise ship.
The vessel began bouncing around wildly oo lake Granbury. near Fort Worth, one night last year. Owner Gary Miller left the pilot bouse and rushed toward the

main deck.
"I couldn't figure it out until I looked downstairs and saw these people doing 'The Bunny Hop,'

he said.

The boat band still takes requests, hut "The Bunny Hop" is forbidden, Miller said this week. (AP)

Going up? \$3 please!

OSLO, March 10, (UPI): The owners of Oslo's newest hotel, exasperated by hordes of carious sightness, said Thursday they want to institute a charge for the use of the hotel's lift.

charge for the use of the hotel's lift.

The Oolo Plaza in the centre of the Norwegian capital is the city's tallest building, and as the first in the country features a fast lift which travels on the outside of the building.

Since the hotel's opening last week, there has been a rush of visitors wanting to sample the panoramic view from the roof terrace which the hotel claims is the highest in Northern Europe.

There were several thousand last week. Our own guests were mable to yet to their rooms, and room service was homested? said Plaza manager.

get to their rooms, and room service was hampered" said Plaza manager Josef Darius Thursday.

Another problem was that not all the sightness were merely curious.

"Some attempted to throw bottles off the top floor. One even tried to relieve himself into the night club below," said deputy manager Ole Andersen.

Andersen said the hotel was planning to charge non-resident visitors for

the use of the lift.

"A charge of 20 kroner (\$3) wouldn't be aureasonable," Darius said adding that those who buy drinks from the rooftop bar may get the lift fee refunded on returning to the ground floor.

ANCHORAGE, Alaska: A pair of pet pigs found themselves back in the pen for promenading down a street and stopping the traffic. Police took four hours to round

Pathe buys up

Italian financler Giancarlo Parretti is head of Pathe Com-

munications who will purchase

MGM/UA Communications Cor-

porations as announced March

7. In a deal fashioned by two of

the film industry's most mys-

terious executives, including

reclusive mogul Kirk Kertonan of

MGM/UA, the company said it

agreed to be bought by Pathe.

(Reuter wirepholo).

up the bigs, and a goat that joined them; and took them away Monday after officials at Homestend Elementary School complained they were blocking traffic.

Officer Terry Simpson said she owner Marge Lampert had been ticketed a dozen times for failing to control her animals, and allegedly had not paid up.

Lampert, an equipment operator at Elmendorf Air Force Base, said she hought the pigs at a state fair last year and her children named them Joseph and Miss Piggy. Now that they're grown, they have become too hard to hold, she said.

- "I had hoped to confine them well and let the kids in the neighbourhood experience farm animals without offending acyone," she said. "I seem to have offended

cveryone.
She also owns four dogs, a cat and 15 tropical birds. (AP)

MANAMA, Bakrain: Archaeologists have uncarthed a pink pearl, believed to be 4,000 years old, stirring excitement on this Persian Gulf island whose oil riches overshadow its former glory as the land of the pearls.
"This is an excellent find, the

most romantic find of the decade," said Robert Killick, director of the joint London-Bahrain archaeological expeditioo.

Unlike gold or silver trinkets. ancient pearls are extremely rare because their surfaces peel and they

disintegrate, he said. Killick said the pearl, which was four millimetres in diameter, was from the Dilmun era — 45 to 50 centuries ago when the island thrived as a major trading centre

between Mesopotamia, now Iraq, and the Indus Valley of West Asia. Killick said the pearl was believed 4,000 years old because his Bahrain's Ministry of Information and the British Academy, was digging through an ancient town

dating to that time.

Bahrain's pearling industry
thrived in the past three centuries. but tapered off with the advent of Japan's artificial pearl industry and the vast wealth carned from oil.

NEW YORK: Former president Renald Reagan was one of more than 100 callers offering birthday Wishes to a critically injured boy who was beaten, bound and set aflame after refusing a jeighbourhood bully's order to take

David Amount spent his 12th birthday Thursday fighting for his life, with doctors giving him a 50-50

vicious attack in an abandoned The 13-year-old charged with Wednesday's attack was described as a foster child with learning disabilities who dropped out of

school, and whose vicious behaviour grew out of his own torment at the hands of older The White House and New York Mayor David Diskies were among those who showered the badly burned David with cards, gifts,

balloons, flowers and messages, said New York hospital-Cornell Medical Centre spokeswoman Diana Goldin. None of the callers could speak with the boy. Reagan said he would call back when David recovers, said Goldin. (AP)

Woman finds note in bottle

NOLTON HAVEN, Wales, March 10, (AP): "I need help. Please rescue me. I am on the ship Scandinavian Star." Fiona Kenyon found that message on soggy paper inside a liquor bottle that had washed ashore near her home after last

week's fierce storms.

It went on to read: "If you receive this message, please mail it to this address and receive a

it to this address and receive a surprise."

The message appeared to have been written by a child and included a drawing of a ship.

The note, broken off in the middle, was signed by Beth Roseufeld of Levittown, New York, and the street address was lost in the soggy fold of the paper, Miss Kenyon said yesterday.

Miss Kenyon 21, said she was malking on the beach, looking for

nique could be used clinically. walking on the beach, looking for He said two other laboratories "anything exciting that might now plan to test his ribozyme in have been washed up during the combatting viruses in laboratory

Sperm mix-up: white mom black child med the artificial insemination. Hugh

NEW YORK, March 10, (Agencies): A white mother is suing a New York sperm bank and a doctor saying she was artificially inseminated with the wrong sperm and gave birth to a black child.

Julia Skolnick says through her lawyer that while she loves her child, now three, what she really wanted was her late husband's child. She is seeking unspecified damages against both the sperm bank and the doctor who inseminated her.

Skolnick filed her suit in October 1989. News of the suit became public on Thurs-

The sperm bank, Idant Laboratories, said yesterday that if there was a mistake, it did not make it. The doctor who perfor-

Genetic

ambush

of Aids

evolved

WASHINGTON, March 10,

(AP): Researchers working with live human cells in test tubes have

developed a genetic ambush of the

Aids virus and say the experimen-

tal technique could combat other

Dr John J. Rossi, a researcher

at the Bechman Research Ins-

titute of the City of Hope in

Duarte, California, said that his

laboratory has made a sympath-

etic ribozyme that is able to gen-

etically cripple the Aids virus and prevent it from reproducing in test

The ribozyme, said Rossie, "is inside the cell and its waiting there

like a soldier waiting for the

Although the technique is

promising, he said it is still far

from being available for treating

Rossi, in a telephone interview,

said his team developed an

artificial gene that secreted the

ribozyme and then put the gene

into living human cells in test

tubes. When these human cells

were exposed to the Aids virus, the

ribozyme blocked the virus from

The rihozyme works like

molecular scissors," that slice

the ribonucleic acid of the Aids

virus, thus blocking the virus from

making copies of itself.

'Ribonucleic acid, or RNA, is

used by the virus to force cells to

make more virus. By cutting the RNA, said Rossi, the virus is per-manently crippled.

The ribozyme itself is a copy of

an RNA that other scientists

found in a plant virus. Those

researchers discovered that a

small part of the plant virus RNA

acted like an enzyme and was

capable of selectively cutting any

part of the genetic pattern in n

The term ribozyme refers to an

RNA that acts as an enzyme by

permitting a reaction to occur

Rossi said his team copied the

olecular structure of the plant

RNA and then developed a synth-

etic gene that manufactured this

ribozyme inside the human cells in

A major advantage of the

ribozyme, he said, is that after it attacks and cuts the RNA in one

virus, the molecule releases itself

and can then attack other virus

"It can do it again and again and again," said Rossi. "It is like one soldier cutting down 10 or

The ribozyme can be designed

to attack any part of the viral

RNA and leave other portions

alone. Rossi said he believes the

ribozyme could also be used to

combat virtually any kind of virus,

including those that cause colds

"It could be used to treat any

virus at all because they all use RNA," he said. "By destroying

have to be done before the tech-

types of viruses.

tube experiments.

enemy to come."

reproducing.

target virus.

within a cell.

a laboratory.

particles.

more of the enemy."

Meinick, has also denied wrongdoing.

Skolnick's lawyer, David Gould, said the mistake has made his client the target of scandal and discrimination and that her daughter is teased and taunted.

"Little kids are saying to the girl, 'how come you look so different from your mummy" he told reporters.

Gould said Skolnick, 32, and her husband were married in 1984 and shortly afterwards he learned that he was dying of

Because they waoted a child, he deposited his sperm at Idant io 1985 and a few months later, Mrs Skolnick was artificially inseminated. She gave birth in

Gould said test; have shown that his client's child was not her husband's and denies that she had any extra-marital relationships. Her hushand died last April.

The newspaper New York Newsday quoted the woman as saying: "The race of my child is irrelevant. What is relevant is that she is not my hushand's child.... the pain and trauma I have sustained knowing that this is not my husband's child has been unspeaknole."

"As my husband's illness progressed," the woman was quoted as saying in court papers, "I decided that having his child

forever."
In March 1:386, the woman contacted Advanced Fer tility Services to get the sperm samples from Idant and use them for insemination 7.

Advanced Fertility and Idant disagree

about what hapt wined them.
Rohert Whit laker, a lawyer for Advance Fertility, said the sperm samples it used to inseminate the woman came

Idant's president, 1Dr Joseph Feldschuh, said the sperm used by Advanced Fertility was not from the sample his company provided.

First kangaroo to get pacemaker

Skippy, the kangaroo gels a scraich under her chin from velerinary nurse Michelle. Brozicevic after Skippy's successful operation to implant a heart pacemaker. The San Francisco zoo's morsupial was the first zoo animal even to receive a

pacemaker. The operation was performed on March 5 by doctors from the University of California San Francisco Medical Centre. (Reuter wirephoto)

Medical file

Older women have healthy babies: Healthy womeo who delay pregnancy into their 30s and 40s generally have a healthy baby, according to a new study in Washington Thursday.

Previous studies suggested womeo over 35 were at fisk for stillbirths, low birth weight babies and premature

"Women 35 and older have an excellent chance of having n healthy infant ... the same as for younger women," the study affirmed. (Kuna)

Coffee may prevent colon cancer: Coffee may not be as bad for you as you thought, but beware that piping hot cup of tea.

Coffee is not responsible for breast cancer and may protect against cancer of the colon and rectum, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Friday.

But the sixth of cancer of the consultant appeared to

But the risk of cancer of the oesophagus appeared to increase among people drinking very bot tea, WHO said in a press release. (Reuter)

Alcoholics take more days off: Up to 14 million working days are lost each year in Britain because of the effect of alcohol, with drinkers taking four times as many days off as other employees, it was reported in London Thursday.

The cost to industry of alcohol-related sickness and absenteeism is about 800 million pounds anoually, according to the anti-drinking group, Alcohol Concern.

The charity's advisory service also said io its study that a

quarter of accidents in the work place io Britain were due to alcobol. (Kuna)

Britons sleep 'too little': A third of Britons fail to get a good night's sleep, according to a survey published in London Thursday.

The report found out "inexplicably" that people who

snore four to six oights a week have most car accidents in And 40 per cent more young people than old complaio

of "too little sleep." These are among hundreds of findings to the survey by sleep expert Dr Colin Shapiro, of Edinburgh University, Scotland (Kuna)

Third Aids vaccine tests: California officials have approved buman tests of a man-made vaccine, making it the third potential vaccine to reach that stage of the development in the United States, the maoufacturer said Tuesday.

The vaccine, called HGP-30, was given to 18 people in

England last May and so far no serious side effects have been observed, said Alpha I Biomedicals Inc. of Washington and Cel-Sci Corp. of Alexandria, Virginia.

It is too early to tell if the vaccinated patients will mount an adequate defence against the Aids virus, but "several" bave produced a desirable combination of antibody and windless cell resonates, said Great Kentra of Cel Sci

immune cell responses, said Geert Kersten of Cel-Sci.

Gene implants approved: In a major leap in medicine, the National Institute of Health in the US has approved for the first time a proposal to treat children with a severe genetic disease by inserting new genes into their

Doctors said gene therapy for human disease took a leap from the theoretical realms of the laboratory toward the real world of practicing medicine as a result of this

The Institutional Biosafety Committee at the National Institute of Health held the nation's first public hearing and then approved it as safe without opposition. But the project still needs the approval of six other federal regulatory panels and the researchers are unlikely to begio clinical trials of the therapy before the end of this year, officials said. (Kuna)

Heart drugs work equally well: Two drugs used to treat heart attacks save lives equally well despite a 10-fold difference in their cost, according to research announced Thursday in New York.

The risk of dying before leaving the hospital was the same on matter whether the patient was treated with Streptokinase or tissue plasmioogen activator, called

When each drug was combined with a second drug called Heparin, Streptokinase showed a lower death rate.
But ao official of Genetech Inc., the biotechnology
company that makes TPA, the more expensive drug, said
he believes the study was out the final answer for American

French pill effective: The French abortion pill known as RU-486 is as safe and effective as surgical abortion, according to the first large-scale study of the

controversial drug.

In a report published io Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine, a team of French researchers from the drug firm that developed the abortion pill says the product had a 96 per cent success rate with few side effects io 2,115 French women who received the drug in late 1988.

The findings confirm that RU-486 works as well in

routine practice as it did in smaller, tightly cootrolled clinical trials conducted before it was placed on the market in France. (Kuna)

Public smoking bans on rise: At least a dozen states have joined the federal government's war on smoking with plans to restrict or outlaw the habit io public ces and devote tax dollars to anti-smoking campaigns, officials said Thursday.
Colorado, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mionesota.

Nebraska, New Jersey, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Vermoot and Virgioia have oewly published plans to implement 10bacco prevention programmes, the federal Centres for Disease Control reported.

Alabama, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Iodiana and Rhode Islaod include smoking prevention as part of general plans for health service to the 1990s, the CDC said. (UPI)

Reunion after 4-year search

MOUNT VERNOIN, Washington, March 10, (AF'): A man's four-year search for luis son that began in California and took him to the South Pacific, the Middle East and South Africa, I. as finally

Bill Hudson of Be rthond, Colorado, was reunited with his 12-year-old son James at the Department of Social and, Health Services office last week. "We just had a really good cry," Hudson said after We does-

day's reunion. "He just mell; ed in my агия." The two then left Mount Vernon, 60 miles (96 kms) nor th of

Seattle, for Colorado on March 8 morning. Skagit County Superior e ourt Judge Gil Mullen grante d a motion Wednesday by Huds on's

attorney, Ken Evans, to al low James to return to Colorado v rith his father. Hudson's ex-wife and the bo y's mother, Diane Alpaugh, w as arrested on a charge of child abduction. She surrendered to police at Seattle-Tacoma Inte rnational Airport last Friday afte #

arriving on a flight from Sout h Africa, where she had been living ? with her current husband. Alpaugh was released on her own recognizance Tuesday by a King County judge despit e a \$25,000 bail in California. She faces extradition to Californi a to face charges there, said Nike Carre, an investigator with the

Orange County district attorn ey's Alpaugh claimed that Hud son had abused their son, but the claarges were dismissed by a Color ado court. She and her new husb and allegedly fled with James from

nia home in 1986. Investigator in Califor nia began a world-wide search che cking on leads in New Zealand, A ustralia, Europe and the Mid dle East — a search costing Huds on between \$20,000 to \$30,000, be

their Huntington Beach, Cali for-

James' picture was featured nation-wide on milk cartons, hi !!boards and in magazines. Hudson said his son probably

will need a long time to adjust to his new surroundings and have 1'o undergo counselling.

Custody battle

AUCKLAND, March 10, (Reuter): A New Zealand judge's efforts 10 block media coverage of a bitter international custody battle seem to be succeeding. The American parents of Hilary Foretieh have finally fallen

Elizabeth Morgan, 47, and Eric Foretich, 42, fighting over custody of their seven-year-old daughter, are apparently in hiding from reporters chasing them around New Zealand.

Morgan, a plastic surgeoo who has accused her former husband of sexually ahusing Hilary, has oot said a word publicly since arriving in New Zealand oo March 5, and has eluded several camera crews pursuing her.

the RNA, you can inactivate the viral function." Fugitive yacht dealer held Rossi said the use of ribozyme FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, expedition, which involves to treat viruses has still not been March 10, (UPI): A fugitive yacht them, police said. In December 1987, Bell wrote his eustomers cheerful Yuletide letters proven in animals or in humans builder who sent Christmas letters and that much more work will

and flu.

from South America telling elients what a good time he was having with their money has been arrested on racketeering, grand theft and fraud

charges.
Tooy Bell, 51, vanished to the fall of 1987 with more than \$2 million that his clients had deposited for the

luxury yachts he promised to build

from South America saying that he was traveliog around the world and having a wonderful time.

On Wednesday, the Florida department of law enforcement's fugitive squad arrested Bell at a recreational vehicle dealership in winter park.

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Care for crack babies will cost \$5 billion

WASHINGTON, March 10, (UPI): Health and Human Services Department officials estimated it will cost \$5 billion annually to provide the 100,000 "crack babies" born each year with hospital services and foster care through age 5. A report released by HHS inspector general Richard Kusserow

suggested Wednesday that the cost could reach \$20 billion a year if all babies exposed to cocaine in the womb were given the care they need after leaving the hospital and the help necessary to prepare them for The cost of caring for the bahies after age 5 "will also be substantial,"

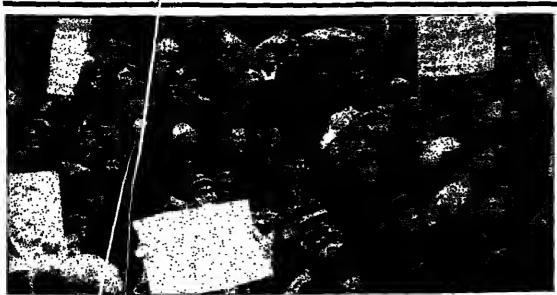
the study said. It quoted one official assaying, "even if we slopped crack use right now, would still be dealing with its effects in some way for the

next 50 to 75 years. The ramifications are forever ... it's a horrible The report assessed the impact of crack babies on child welfare en in de systems in 12 cities and found the extent of the problem actually may be underestimated because most crack babies initially uppear to be healthy.

Dr Salem Al-Enezi (Orthodontist)

College Colleg Calculation is a limit the

Conferm Manage College (weary and part of 100 to 10



Rapresentatives of i informal left organisations gather in Gorki Park on the eve of the USSR Communist Party plennary meeting. (Reuter wirephoto)

Parliament certain to elect

Gorby faces opposition

Mikhail Gorhachev's bid to a Western-style president faces an assault from opposition forces, concerned that a stre nger Soviet presidency will have too much power.

Parlia ment is virtually certain next we ek to elect Gorbachev as state pr esident with unprecedented cor istitutional authority, five ears after he took power as Krem lin leader.

So viet leaders have approved the post in a series of landmark reforms that include the ruling Cornamunist Party relinquishing its diecades-long monopoly on

G orbachev and his backers say the Soviet Union needs the new executive post to push thre rugh his social and political reforms in the face of growing

F tut a loose coalition of radical

partiamentarians and leaders of the outlying non-Russian republic has begun to take shape ahead of Monday's opening of the Congress of People's Deputies.

Both groups are united by fears that the revamped presidency could quash moves toward real democracy and expanded regional autonomy and even independence.

In Moscow the radical interegional group of deputies to the Parliament held a plenary session today to map out their challenge ahead of the congress.

Delegates to the congress from the Ukraine and Georgia have voiced alarm over the presidential law's lack of protection for the constituent republics.

And the newly-elected Lithuanian Parliament, firmly controlled hy the Sajudis mass movement, is racing to re-establish the republie's pre-war independence at the weekend, before the presidential law is formally enacted.

Among provisions of the bill, approved on Feb 27 by the inner Parliament and certain to be ratified by the congress ahead of Gorbachev's selection, is the president's right to rule by

Galina Starovoitova, an inter-regional member, told Moscow television the group would probably nominate its own candidate to run against Gorbachev, despite slim odds of success.

She said the group's can-didate, if successful, would immediately step down and throw the post open to nationwide, direct elections. Critics have charged the election by deputies rather than by the peo-ple violates Gorbaehev's own calls for greater "democratisa-tion" of Soviet life.

Georgia rises against **USSR** too

MOSCOW, March 10, (AP): The parliament of Soviet Georgia yesterday demanded that the republic become independent, a loc al news agency reported.

Georgia joined Latvia, Lithuainia and Estonia in taking par:liamentary action condemning its inclusion in the Soviet Urnion while under occupation by Red Army troops. The Lithua nian parliament is expected to vo te on a formal declaration of in dependence tomorrow.

The Georgian parliament, ca lled the Supreme Soviet, also condemned Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal for creation of a strong presidency, according to a transcript of the resolution read to the Associated Press over the telephone by the Independent News Agency of Ciexorgia.

The resolution said it was 'uaadmissible" to adopt the section of the proposed law calling for the president to be able to declare a state of emergency and martial law.

Lithuanian activists preparing today to declare their republie's independence said the powerful Sajudis Nationalist Movement wants its own man to be president instead of the current Communist Party leader.

With communists a minority in the new Lithuanian parliament, it wouldn't be right to re-elect President Algirdas Brazauskas, the republie's party chief, said Haroldas Subachius, an activist with the pro-independence group Sajudis, quoting the decision of a movement council.

Gorbachev and other Soviet officials have said the Kremlin might be willing to accept Lith-

uanian secession at a steep price. The official news agency Tass said the Georgian parliament had adopted a resolution saying the presidency proposal restricts sovereign rights of the republic. Tass said nothing in its four-sentence report about the section of the resolution condemning the Red Army's occupation of Georgia in Fehruary 1921 and the subsequent treaties incorporating Georgia as part of the Soviet

seeking their first travel documents.

"This passport is something like a

East Germans for demilitarised union

Mitterrand backs Polish stance

EAST BERLIN, March 10, (Agencies): Most East Germans want a future united Germany to be demilitarised or neutral and only a handful support West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's plans to stay in Nato. according to the latest opinion

The survey, published by the West German Infas polling institute nine days before East Gercided with the start of talks between two German states on security arrangements for a unified Germany straddling the former iron curtain dividing

Europe's power blocs. France meanwhile gave full backing to Polish demands for a binding border treaty with the two Germanys and said Warsaw sbould join talks on security aspects of unification along with the four victorious World War Two allies.

President Francois Mitterrand said a resolution passed by the Bonn Parliament on Thursday did not go far enough.

The Infas poll suggested 39 per cent of East Germans favoured a demilitarised Germany and 26

per cent a neutral state. Only four per cent said they wanted a unified state to be a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, and nine per cent said Germany should be

in both the Western alliance and

the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. The poll showed the Social Democrats (SPD) as the most popular party in the run-up to the elections with the support of 30 per cent of decided voters. Twenty-one per cent preferred the conservative alliance backed by Kohl's Christian Democrats and 15 per cent supported the reformed Communist Party, now ealled the Party for

Democratic Socialism. Kohl, meanwhile, has intensified a new internatonal campaign to reassure his nation's allies and neighbours he is not gambling with their interests or bungling the German unification process.

Kohl's government yesterday vowed that "all steps on the path to unity will be done in close coordination with our partners in the alliance, in the European Community, and with our neighbours in Eastern Europe."

Less than 24 bours earlier, Kohl reassured his Nato partners in Brussels that the Germans would not try to go solo during the unification process.

Meanwhile, Kohl's Christian Democrats issued new appeals for East Germans not to leave their homeland. More than 100,000 East Germans have gone to West Germany this year, placing tremendous hurdens on social services and the bousing and joh markets.

Wolfgang Mischnick, a leading lawmaker with the Free Democratie Party, junior partner in Kohl's coalition government, said emergency shelters for the East German resettlers may be shut down after East Germany's March 18 elections to diseourage more from heading

Hungary accord signed

Red Army to go

signed an agreement calling for all Red Army troops to be withdrawn from Hungarian territory by the middle of next year, Hungarian radio

The pullout will begin on Monday, according to the agreement signed in Moscow by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his Hungarian counterpart, Gyula Horn, the report said. Hungary is the second Warsaw Pact country to negotiate a complete

withdrawal of Soviet troops.

Prague and Moscow reached an agreement last month on the removal of 73,500 Soviet troops from Czechoslovakia. The pullont there began Feh 26.

Such pullouts were requested after pro-democracy revolutions swept communists from power across eastern Europe late last year and early

On lan 8, the interim government ruled

that all Romanians were entitled to pass-

Gromyko memoirs reveal Stalin cruelty

NEW YORK, March 10, (Reuter): With death approaching, former Soviet President Andrei Gromyko med to come to grips with communism's cruel mystery how did Joseph Stalin murder millions of innocent people and turn his country

into an iron dictatorship.

The agonising conclusion by a man many considered to be a faithful follower and implementer of Stalin's and the Soviet line was that "not even the executioners of slaves in ancient Rome behaved like this." But be is, ultimately, at a loss to explain

why so many people hlindly followed Stalin, the Soviet communist leader from 1922 to 1953, although he says terror, ceosorship and toadyism were major fac-

Gromyko's last thoughts on a subject historians still debate are in a 30-page addition to his memoirs written for the US edition, published by Douhleday this

The former president and longtime foreign minister says in the new chapter. 'The worst features of Nietzsehe's philosophy of the superman seem humane in comparison with the philosophy of Stalinism." He also asks: "Why was he not

Gromyko, who died in July 1989 shortly after finishing the new chapter, made hrief critical comments about the dictator when he published his memoirs in the Soviet Union in 1988.

In the original version, he credited Stalin with holding the Communist Party together after founder V.I. Lenin's death and leading the country through a devas-tating war, but added: "The Soviet nation feels justified anger" over Stalin's repres-sion and his 'snake-like' stifling of his

However, he did not deal in detail with the question of bow Stalin managed to crush both friend and foe and then die peacefully in his bed, with; as he says, former security chief Lavrenty Beria kiss-

ing the dictator's hands when ing the dictator's hands when Stalin had a hrief moment of lucidity before dying.

Haywood Isham, who edited the memoirs for Doubleday, said Gromyko was asked to elaborate on many points in the original book for the English language edition and the chapter came from that request. It was written too late to be included in the British edition of the book.

Isham added. Isham said editors never expected the account to be so graphic. Here this patriotic Marxist-Leninist, this dogged grips with Stalin and the terrible cruelties he inflicted. defender of Soviet interests tries to come to

Mongolia

leader to

consider

changes

BEIJING, March 10. (AP): Mongolia's Communist Party leader Zbambya Batmonh,

leader Zbambya Batmonh, under pressure from increasingly vocal pro-reform opposition groups, has indicated he supports revamping the ruling polition a foreign source said today. Batmonh, in a nationally televised address yesterday, also proposed that a plebiscite beheld to measure confidence in the Great People's Hural, the nation's party-controlled les-

nation's party-controlled leg

islature. His statements represented

major victory for the 3-month-old reform movement, and

raised the odds that Mongolia, a landlocked nation between China and the Soviet Union

would become Asia's first com-

munist state to undergo

democratic political changes.

The source, speaking in a tele

golian capital of Ulan Bator, said Batmonh, who salso is the nation's president, appealed for

opposition groups to respect law and order and end a three day

He said the hunger strikers

gathered in a roped-off area on

the capital's Central Square

ended their fast at about 10 pm

(1400 GMT) yesterday. There were about 30 participants at the

A general strike proposed for today by demonstrators who gathered in the square yesterday, also was likely to be called off in responsed confessions flade by fishmont the seince start.

Batmont, a former university rector who took power in 1984, and the partil Central Commits.

said the party Central Commit

tec would meet Monday to con-

gress. He also said he hoped the

meetings would result in the elec-

sider holding a special party co

tion of a new polithino.

hunger strike

Poll tax riots rage

Question mark on Iron Lady's survival

LONDON, March 10, (Reuter): Protests against a new tax championed by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher have erupted into successive nights of rioting on London's streets and intensified the pressure against Britain's beleaguered leader.

Riot police battled stone-throwing protesters in London on Thursday and Friday nights at the climax of a week when thousands of Britons up and down the country took to the streets in angry demon-

strations against Thatcher's "poli tax."

Some political commentators question whether Thatcher, who has

The authoritative Economist magazine said suggestions that Thatcher may be out of power by the autumn "must now be taken

seriously. The controversial tax, to be introduced in England and Wales on April I, will replace local property taxes with a per-sonal charge on all adults. Many households—already feeling the pinch from high interest rates on home loans — face sharply higher bills. About 20 million people, including tenants and young adults living at home, will be payed towards local services for the first time.

Critics say the new system favours the rich, penalises the poor and takes no account of people's ability to pay. The government says it will make local authorities more accountable to their voters, and hismes free-spending Labour-led councils for the high tax charges in

Meanwhile Lahour, though enjoying the government's discomfort, faces problems of its own as protests outside Britain's town halls spill over into

Conservative politicians and the largely pro-government press have blamed the noting in London on militant extremists on the fringes of the Labour movement.

Labour leader Neil Kinnock on Friday attacked "Toytown revolutionaries" whose tactics played into the government's hands by distracting attention from the poll tax issues and providing a convenient scapegoat.

A group of 28 Labour parliamentarians has embarrassed Kinnock by calling on people to stage a civil disobedience campaign by refusing to pay the tax.

weathered previous political storms to notch up three successive election victories, can survive much longer.

Her popularity rating has taken a dive and her government, already under fire over its handling of the economy, trails the opposition Labour Party by nearly 20 points in opinion polls.

Thatcher, burned in effigy at some anti-tax protests, said on Friday she saw "no nervousness" in her cabinet, despite newspaper reports that some ministers wanted her to quit.



Police and protestars clash in Brixton, south London late yesterday as violence broke out during an anti politax demonstration. Paint and bricks were thrown and a police see tipped over (Reuter wirephoto)

Protests look set to continue. as councils face a mid-March deadline to set the charge for their areas.

The popular revolt has sparked resignation rumours, street battles and a sharp fall in

A defiant Thatcher said yesterday she enjoyed solid support in cabinet despite a report in the Independent newspaper that ministers had discussed a suggestion she might be asked to quit. "I can find no nervousness in

cabinetatall," the prime minister said in a television interview. In the racially-tense London neighbourhood of Brixton, protesters pelted police with bricks, bottles and paint and overturned a patrol car after burning her in effigy and setting fire to the British flag.

Police said at least 14 people were arrested and several officers injured in the second straight night of street violence in the capital. A protest in another London district on Thursday ended in the city's most serious rioting and looting in years.

"Those who have used the tacties of invasion and violence are playing straight into the hands of the government." Kinnock said maspeech in Scotland appearing for a peaceful fight against the

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Thatcher's deputy prime minister, said of the violence: "It smacks of organised thuggery and political intimidation of a most disturbing kmd."

Market rumours that Thatcher had resigned caused a sharp drop of two and half cents in the pound to 1.6165 dollars by the end of currency trading in London yesterday despite early Bank of England intervention.

Monday's meeting will take up the question of holding a referen-dum on the Great People's Hural, which under communist rule has little power and is not directly elected. The Communist. Party's 69-year-old monopoly. on power also may be on the The opposition, which first

took to the streets in peaceful demonstrations in December, complains that Mongolia is moving too slowly in its version of perestroika," the Soviet word for restructuring.

Two newly formed opposition parties, the Mongolian Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party, have demand ded the resignation of the polit-buro, the dissolution of the leg-islature for new elections and recognition of a multi-party sys-

Pope will visit Czechoslovakia

VATICAN CITY, March 10

(Reuter): Pope John Paul will visit three cities and celebrate three masses during a 34-hour trip to Czechoslovakia next month to pay tribute to the comtry's fledging democracy, the Vatican said today.

It will he the first trip by a pope to Czechoslovakia and Pope

John Paul's first to a Warsaw Pact country besides his native Poland, which he has visited

three times.

According to the official programme of the April 21-22 trip released today, the Pope will hold private talks with Cze-

choslovak President Vaclav Havel. He will also meet priests and nuns at St Vitus Cathedralin Prague and celebrate an outdoor mass on Letna Hill.

Italy reds relaunch party

BOLOGNA, Italy, March 10, (Reuter): Italy's Communist Party, the West's biggest, took a first step today towards transforming itself into a Social Democratic Organisation following the collapse of communism in Eastern

But as party chief Achille Occhetto appealed for unity among members, the hardline old guard indicated they would light on to try to preserve commission. Occhetto spoke as delegates, representing the Italian Communist Party 5 1.44 million members, wound up a four-day congress and began voting op policy changes.

These included electing a new Central Committee and backing moves by Occhetto. 54, to change the logo and name of the party officially known at the PCI, and create a new Social Democratic Movement encompassing various.

least six months, during which the changes will be debated nations wide before another congress is called to approve them.

NEWSINGUE

UK may ban 'bandogs'

LONDON, March 10, (AP): The government said yesterday it was prepared to consider banning a dangerous breed of dog called "bandog." Bandogs are a cross between a pit bull

Terrier and a larger, stronger breed, such as a Rottweiller.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals described the 130-pound (50-kilo) handogs as "Darwinian nightmares," capable of killing human being in a one-to-one fight.

Asked if these dogs might be banned. Home Secretary David Waddington said: "I'm prepared to look at anything."

Sofia parties confer to unite: Delegates from dozens of independent groups began a three-day conference Friday designed to unite Bulgaria's non-communist opposition before multi-party elections due in Juoe.

elections due in Juoe.

Also Friday, some 150,000 people demonstrated in the capital Solia for a free press, the state media reported.

The Solia rally had been called by the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) and editors of at least three independent publications that have been established over the next mosth.

been established over the past mooth.

Speakers at the rally called for a fair distribution of newsprintamong all publications and on limit on subscriptions, the state BTA news agency and staterun TV reported. (AP)

Kosovo all-night curfew lifted: Authorities in Kosovo Friday lifted an all-night curfew imposed last mooth in the restive Yugoslav province to help quell a wave of protests by ethnic

yesterday to boost ethnie minority day-to-day law and order.

Kosovo's police, in a brief statement, said the reasons for the curfew "no longer exist," the state news agency Tanjug reported. The curfew was introduced Feb 21.

The Yugoslav Army ordered its units into the province late last month to help police restore Other restrictive measures such as a ban on "all movements and gatherings of people for the purpose of demonstrating" still remain in force, a ranking Kosovo official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the Associated Press. (AP)

Iraqi jailed for beating wife: An Iraqi man who banged his Swedish wife's head against a
wall was jailed oo Friday, an appeal court reversing
an earlier judgement that he deserved kniency
because of his different cultural background.
The high court in this northern Swedish city ruled

there were no extenuatiog circumstances and sen-

tenced him to two months' imprisonment on a conviccion of assault, unlawful intimidation and COERCIOO.

"Nobody can in future seek refuge in their cul-"Nobody can in tuture seek retuge in used cutural background when they commit serious offences like this," Anita Wallin-Wiberg, the wife's lawyer, said after the ruling. (Reuter)

France threatens to boycott: France threatened on Friday to boycott an international Aids conference in San Francisco in June because of the US visa policy towards carriers of the fatal

virus,
"The French government reaffirms its commitment to the principle of non-discrimination towards Aids sufferers," the French Health Ministry said io a statement.

"If the staging of his conference does oot provide

guarantees that the principles safeguarded in France will be respected ... it would be impossible for the French authorities to attend or sopport representatives and associations wishing to go," it added. (Reuter)

Natia.



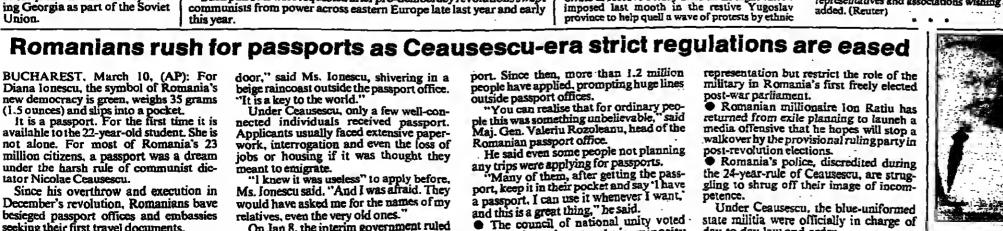
celebration after receiving the prestigious Lifa Achievement Award from the Amarican Film Institute el the Beverly Hilton Hotel. (Rauter wirephoto)

co's drive to woo back Britain and the United States may be compromised by a 3 six million adminis-trative overhaul announced by its Director-General Federico Mayor, diplomats say.
Sources close to Unesco told Reuters on Friday they were "baffled" by the timing of staff changes. published this week as part of Mayor's much-heral-ded reform of the UN educational, scientific and

cultural agency he took over two years ago.

They come as Britain and the United States are reconsidering membership of the agency, which they quit five years ago citing anti-Western bias and waste. They took 30 per cent of the agency's revenue with them. (Reuter)

Gysi makes safe landing: East German Communist leader Gregor Gysi, whose party is likely to crash in next weekend's free elections. made a safe landing on Saturday after his first parachute jump.



Mandela offers Stalin had be serving to be shall be shal A-bomb of peace

10 killed in new SA unrest

DAR ES SALAAM, March 10, (Agencies): South African black leader Nelson Mandela, told thousands of Tanzanians he would return to his country with an "atomie bomh" that would hring peace and not

In Cape Town, racial and political violence killed 10 people in South Africa at the start of the weekend and encouraged speculation that Mandela may cut short his first visit ahroad since his release from jail. The reports said Mandela, in Tanzania until tomorrow, would return home soon to try to halt the violence

that has flared since his release in February after 27 years in South African jails. Mandela is in Tanzania on a six-day visit as part of a 17-day African tour to promote the anti-apartheid

"We will go back to South Africa with an atomic bomh in our heart and blood, not for the purposes of destruction, but to bring about peace and equality in our country," Mandela said in an address to more than 30,000 people in Dar Es Salaam's sports

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The bomb "will hring happiness and not misery to all South Africans," he said.

Mandela, made deputy leader of the ANC last Friday in Zambia, was scheduled to visit the military training camps he set up almost 30 years ago. Even though South African President Frederik de Klerk announced sweeping racial reforms last month, Mandela said the ANC was not ready to abandon the armed struggle against the white minority government.

Tanzanian authorities have banned press coverage of Mandela's three-day camp inspection, at Mandela's request.

Mandela held lengthy talks Wednesday with former president Julius Nyerere, opened a road named after him and

jaro, 2nd class, one of the highest decorations of the Tenzanian government.

Violence flared across the country last night with officers firing pistols, shotguns and teargas in clashes with hlack rioters and vandals.

Police offered no explanation for the trouble which followed riots in two of South Africa's nominally-independent tribal homelands.

About 100 people were arrested in Cape Town today when police halted an unanthorised march through the city to press for the release of political prison-

About 3,000 people staged a similar march through the Indian Ocean port of Durban but police did not intervene.

Mandela thanked African states yesterday for their support in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa but said there was still work to be done.

He interrupted his Tanzanian visit to make a 24-hour trip to Ethiopia at the invitation of the

Organisation of African Unity (OĂU).

He left Addis Ababa to return to Tanzania to visit ANC military and educational camps in Tringa town before e scheduled departure tomorrow for Sweden, his first trip outside Africa since he was released from

Mandela's purpose in visiting Sweden is twofold — to pay homage to ANC figurehead Tambo et the clinic where he is undergoing therapy after a stroke, and to cement the close ties between Stockholm and the ANC, Swedish officials say.

The Swedish news agency TT reported that British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock would visit Mandela during his planned stay in Sweden from March 12 to 17, but British and Swedish officials were unable to confirm

■ King Moshoeshoe II of Lesotho is expected to go into exile in Britain after a bitter dispute with the country's military government, palace officials said



3 die as planes collide in air

Two small planes collided and crashed into two homes, killing all three people aboard the planes and showering a residential neighbourhood with grisly debris.

The planes, one trailing an advertising banner and the other piloted by a trainer and his student, collided Friday at an altitude of about 1,000 feet (304 metres). They crashed into the houses about a block apart in this suburb of Fort Lauderdele (crash site shown above).

Rought and Mary Ruth Blevins were eating dinner when one of the pienes hit their home.

Next door, Jeannie Brooks, 22, was bringing in groceries and her two small girls.
"It looked like confettl in the sky," she said. "It looked like it was coming down right on top of me."

Miramar police officer Grace Cooper said there were no reports of injuries to envone on the ground. Firetrucks doused the wreckage to prevent explosions and police seeled off several streets, some littered with debris. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sporadic gunfire was heard in

"The soldiers are shooting

several parts of the capital before

dawn today but residents seemed

because they are afraid of the people," a resident of the Fort Nationale section of the city said.

Demoustrators erected barricades of burning tires

around the city yesterday and

staged demonstrations calling

for Avril's ouster. Students cla-

shed with police at one college,

and authorities opened fire.

wounding several people and

creating panic at a nearby hosp-

ital, a student representative

He can't stay any longer," said one Haitian. "Everyone wants

him to go."

"We have to get rid of this guy.

An estimated 200,000 people

At least four people, including

demonstrations, officials said.

Earlier it was reported that

Avril was planning to leave Haiti

for an undisclosed European

country. Sources close to the

palace said his two grown sons had already left for Europe, pos-

sibly to prepare for their father's

departure.

have participated in the week-

long demonstrations that have

Haitian dictator stepping down

10. (Agencies): Haitian dietator Prosper Avril, bowing to pres-sure of massive and sure of massive civil unrest, was ready to band over power today to his military subordinate, a radio executive quoted the

Radio Metropole news director Clarence Renoir said French ambassador Jean Raphael Dufour told him Avril would relinquish power in a nationally

US and French ambassadors, Avril would turn over the government to acting Army Chief of Staff Gen. Herard Abraham. Abraham, diplomatic sources said, has agreed to hand over the government on Monday to the Supreme Court until elections

can be held. It was not clear whether Avril

would leave the country. · Avril's decision came after reported intense negotiations between him and Dufour and US

Avril's ouster was demanded by a 12-party opposition coali-tion that launched a round of be headed by the vice-president Alphonse. Appronse.

foreign minister

the late Robert Ouko.

ioternational co-operatioo was amounced yesterday by President Daniel Arap Moi along with three

technology before being given the water portfolio in 1988.

of the armed forces. in a low voice charged with emotion,

SANTIAGO, March 10, (AP): In an emotional farewell, President Augusto Pinochet pinned "Mission accomplished" medals on his cabinet ministers and said his 16-year-old military government restored order to Chile.

The general, scheduled to hand over power tomorrow to an elected civilian — Patricio Aylwin of the Christian Democrat Party - said he called the final cabinet meeting yesterday to "reaffirm the absolute peace of mind that we should feel for having fully accomplished our mis-

Pinochet, however, has said he will remain commander of the military despite

was

to lie:

North

WASHINGTON, March 10, (Reuter): Oliver North, back in

the Iran-Contra spotlight against his will, has told jurors that his

former White House boss John

Poindexter knew of his doings but

never told him to lie about them to

Congress.
Wearing a pin-striped suit and a

wounded look, North was hostile

and evasive as he answered

prosecutors' questions in Poin-

dexter's criminal Iran-Cnntre

Giving curt "yes" and "no" answers and quibbling over fine

points of evidence, North sat in the

witness stand surrounded by

reams of his former testimony

before Congress, at his own trial

and at the hearing in Poindexter's

He frequently asked prosecutor

When Webb referred tn the

North acknowledged that be

and Poindexter communicated

about the affair by a private White

House computer channel known as "Private Blank Check."

In a memo sent on this channel

North gave Poindexter an inven-

tory of Contra assets in July 1986,

including six aircraft, ware-houses, supplies, ships, boats, ord-nance, munitions and a 6,500 foot

Prosecutor Dan Webb read this

list in court and then asked North:

"Is this a good example of how you were keeping Poindexter advised

nf your Contra supply npera-

Later, Webb asked: "Ynu say

twn national security advisers (Poindexter and his predecessor in

the Reagan White House, Robert McFarlane) told you not to reveal your Contra activities. Did that

include lying to Congress to con-

"Nn one ever told me to lie to

ceal your Contra activities?"

Congress," North said.

airstrip worth \$4.5 million.

"Yes," North said.

Contra supply plan by its code name, "The Enterprise," North objected, saying he had always

called it "Project Democracy."

Dan Webb to refresh his memory

using the stacks of documents.

case in December.

not told

Pinochet said his right-wing military government was leaving behind "a society that is free, at peace and orderly."

Pinochet presented each minister with a "Mission accomplished" medal. The award was recently minted by the government and Pinochet received the first

International human rights organisations have repeatedly criticised the government for human rights abuses since Pinochet led the Sept 11, 1973, coup that toppled elected president Salvador Allende.

to decorate the new commander of the navy, Pinochet said the armed forces will remain strong and united after he gives up

He did not eleborate, but in recent speeches Pinochet and other military leaders have warned of alleged efforts by anti-Pinochet political groups to infiltrate and destroy the armed forces.

administration, Pinochet, 74, cannot be replaced for eight years as commander of the powerful 60,000-member army.

Under a 1980 constitution written by his

The constitution also makes the armed forces the "guarantor" of Chile's internal

Pinochet rambles before quitting office

In other developments eleven bombs exploded late yesterday in the Chilean capital two days before the inauguration of president-elect Patricio Aylwin and one biast wounded a man near the US con-

sulate, police said. A police spokesman said the explosions in different areas of Santiego hit government offices, private businesses, the home

A gardener, Jose Santibanez, was badly wounded by a bomb that exploded in a park in front of the US consulate, the spokesman said.

of a military officer and a Mormon temple.



Colombian President Virgilio Barco Vargas (right) and lettist guarrilla movement M-19 leader Carlos Pizarro share a laugh atter signing a peace agreement. At right thousands of supporters and former M-19 guerrillas raise Iheir arma In a show of victory, in Caloto. (Reuter wirephotos)

News Neries

Cuba to remain communist: Havana vowed on Friday to remaio communist - not out of simple obstinacy hut to defend a Cuban model of socialism different from the old East European

Cuba also dismissed the aspirations of its forme East European allies — sayioa Poland wanted to become a second Sweden. Czechoslovaks were pressiog for a return to their pre-war glory, while East Germans were carried away by unity

"Our political independence, our economic development and our well-being are necessarily linked to the defence of our socialism," the domestic news agency AIN said in a commentary entitled "reasons for intransigence," (Reuter)

Castro urged to call elections: A group of intellectuals and economists and their host, presidential candidate Mario Vargas Llosa, on Friday urged Fldel Castro to call free elections in

Cuba.
The three-day meeting, called "The liberty revolution," was organised by the Liberty Movement, a group of neo-liberal politicians and husiness people that formed around Vargas Llosa when he entered the race for presidency.

The theme of the conference was the political

changes taking place in Latin America, Eastern Europe and clsewhere.

A letter to Castro was issued Friday by con-ference participants, and accused the Cubao leader of proposing a "holocaust" by promising to "sink the island in the sea before abandoning commun-

skull was carried on the recent mission of the space shuttle Atlantis to help scientists deter-mine how much radiation penetrates astronauts' heads when they are in space.

will also be placed aboard the shnttle Discovery when it is launched next mooth, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said.

The industry magazine, Aviation Week and Space Technology, said "the Phantom head, as it is officially designated, was mounted oo the right wall of the shuttle middeck near the lower

Skull aboard Atlantis

WASHINGTON, March 10, (AP): A human The skull, owner and gender undetermined, had been carried into orbit once previously and

end of an astronaut sleeping bag."

Jailed for classmate's murder: Two womeo who killed their 17-year-old high school classmate because they suspected her of having sex with their boyfriends were each sentenced to prison terms of 15 years to life on Friday.

Prosecutors told the court that Karen Severson and Laura Doyle 22, who were also 17 when the murder took place five years ago, killed Michele Avila by drowning her in a stream in the mountains outside Los Aogeles.

The two were coovicted of second-degree mur-A key prosecution witness, then fellow-student

Eva Chirumbolo, said she was with the other three when Severson and Doyle accused Avila of making love to their boyfriends and other men. Chirumbolo said she became freightened and ran back to her car. When Severson and Doyle returned

to the car, they told her they had killed Avila, whose body was found two days later, pinned under a log Chirumbolo said she did not come forward with her story for three years because she feared for her

Worst cabbie surrenders licence: A cah driver who had racked up a record 119 rule violations surrendered his licence 24 hours before

he was to face a judge at a revocation hearing. "to the future oo driver will ever get the chance to approach the level that he reached," Jack Lusk, chairman of the City Taxi and Limousine Commission, said Thursday, the same day that Vehbi Guoduz surrendered his hack's licence. (AP)

Quayle tours Caribbean nations: us Vice-President Dan Quayle is turning to economic and trade talks with Caribbean nations, while also

sounding out regional leaders oo how to ensure a peaceful transfer of power io Nicaragua. Quayle arrived Friday in Barbados after discussions in Venezuela on the prospects of moving the Nicaraguan rebels to enclaves within Nicaragua as

an interim step in demobilisation.

Quayle also discussed Central American peace ssues with Barbados Prime Minister Lloyd Erskine Sandiford. (AP)

Redoubt volcano erupts again: Redoubt volcano erupted again Friday, throwing a plume of ash seveo miles (11 kms) into the sky and toward

Alaska's largest city, officials say.

Seismologists at the Alaska Volcano
Observatory said the "moderate-size eruptioo"
occurred at 9:51 am (1951 GMT) and cootained less
ash than previous hlasses. (AP)

Gallows for killer

ATLANTA, March 10. (AP): A man coovicted in a murder that was cited by the group claiming responsibility for two deadly mail bombs was sentenced to die in the electric chair.

Emmanuel Hammond, 24, was sentenced yesterday by the jury that had convicted him Wednesday of the kidnapping, murder and armed rohbery of Julic Love, a 27-year-old Atlanta preschool filness teacher.

A racist letter from a group claiming responsibility for the pre-Christmas mail bomh deaths of Judge Robert Vance of the 11th US Circuit Court of Appeals and Savannah lawyer Robert Robinson said the ettacks were motivated by outrage over Miss Love's killing. Hammond is black, Love was white.

Actor arrested for drug case: Actor Corey Feldman was arrested and booked on suspicion of possession of heroin for sale, authorities

said today. Feldman, 18, of Beverly Hills, was arrested ocar downtown about 7:15 pm Friday, Sgt Gene Leary said. He was booked at the Parker Centre jail on suspicion of possession of heroin for sale, Leary

The actor, who appeared in the movie "Goonies," was handcuffed to a bench at the Newtoo division station before he was taken to the jail division for booking, Sgt Doug Tantee said. (UPI)

Transplant survivor leaves hospital: Twelve-year-old Stormic Jones, the world's only heart-liver transplant survivor, was discharged from children's hospital of Pittsburgh on Friday, following a 19-day hospital stay for a second liver

Hospital officials said surgeons were pleased with Stormie's recovery from her 10-hour liver transplant, but would contioue to monitor her progress closely.

They said Stormic and her mother will remain io the Pittsburgh area for about two weeks for follow-up visits to the hospital before returning to their home in White Settlement, Texas. (Reuter)

Tennis pro faces murder charges: An aspiring tennis pro headed home from a tour-nament in Israel on Friday to face charges that he and his brother shot their millionaire parents to death, friends and relatives said. (AP)

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> The District Manager, PO Box 9574 Ahmadi, 61006 Ahmadi, Kuwait.

French ambassador as saying.

broadcast radio speech at noon from the presidential palace. Under the plan reportedly negotiated between Avril and the

spread to every part of Haiti, an impoverished nation of 6 million people that occupies the western third of the island of Hispaniola in the Caribbean. ambassador Alvin Adams. one soldier, have died in the

protests throughout the West Indian nation March 4. The coalition, the association of pobtical parties, had demanded that the provisional government of the Supreme Court, Volcy

NAIROBI, March 10. (AP): Wilson Ndolo Ayah, Kenya's minister for water development, has been named the new foreign minister, replacing

Ayah's appointment to head the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and

by winning a parliamentary seat from the western Kenya district of

He was named assistant minister for finance io 1987 and later served as minister for research, science and

Kenya names new

other cahinet changes.

Ayah, 57, entered politics in 1969

Aids doctor agrees to out of court \$1.35m

NEW YORK, March 10. (AP): A physician who claims she got Aids from a contaminated needle will receive \$1.35 million in a negotiated settlement of her lawsuit charging the hospital with negligence, a judge said yesterday.

Dr Veronica Prego, 32, will receive two-thirds of the award, or \$900,000 when it is paid by the city of New York in about two weeks. The remainder will go to the lawyers who represented her.
In her lawsuit, Prego contended she had developed Aids after puncturing her finger with a contaminated needle carelessly left amid soiled refuse on a patient's bed at the city-owned Kings County hospital.

After a trial that lasted more than two months, Prego unexpectedly

dropped her lawsuit and agreed to the out-of-court settlement on Thursday, as the jury was scheduled to hear closing arguments. She said she would use the money to help her family and to provide for her medical expenses in "the tough days ahead." Brooklyn state justice Aaron D. Bernstein originally ordered the participants in the lawsuit not to disclose the amount of the settlement.

Yesterday, however, he reversed his order after a newspaper, the New York Post, sued to have the settlement unsealed. The judge said he had issued the gag order to spare Prego the embarrassment of being questioned by reporters about why she settled for such a seemingly small sum.
"It was something that touched a chord with Dr Prego. She didn't want people to think that the value of the case was that little," Bernstein

"I didn't want Dr Prego to be questioned about the reason she took that amount of money when she sued for so much more," he said.

Chamorro seeks \$400m in US aid April 25, needs some finance quickly for pressing needs like huying oil, food, seeds, fertiliser and spare parts. Nicaragua's economy has been run down due to the war

WASHINGTON, March 10, (Reuter): The United States hopes to provide quickly at least some of the \$300 million to 400 in aid sought by Nicaragua, an official of its incoming government said yesterday. and economic sanctions imposed by the United States.

The White House has said the Bush administration will

President-elect Violeta Chamorro had asked for the aid to help rebuild the Central Americao natioo's war-torn economy, said Francisco Mayorga, her chief tinancial

"The (Bush) administration hopes that they will find a way to bridge-finance at least part of the package, "he told reporters at the end of four days of talks in Washington. He said Chamorro, who defeated Sandinista President Daniel Ortega in elections on Fch 25 and takes office on

productive oot only in starting the recovery of the ecoo-omy but also in consolidating democracy," he said. Bader Al Mulla & Brothers Co.W.L.L.

Chamorro's victory.

Mayorga said.

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sooo end the economic sanctions in response to

"I received very strong indications of support from both the administration and the leaders of the congress,"

"I am hopeful that we will be able to begin working

together very shortly and that these resources will be

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- 3. Fill in your name and address in the

opprepriate lines on the form, in block

4. Moke on exact copy of your 15 numbers on the copy card provided underneath, ond keep it so that you can check off your numbers as they oppear in the ARAB TIMES every day.

and the same of th

- 5. Register you Free Bingo entry by sending it to the ARAB TIMES. Read details below
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- There is no entry tee, but all entries must be on separate ARAB TIMES forms and only entries from one competitor may be enclosed in the same envelope.
- 2. The number of each day's list will be read from left to right with the left hand number being the first of the day. The order then continues to the right. Claimonts with one number will have preference over cialments with two or more numbers.
- 3. All the claimonts' entries will be opened at 1 pm on the day ciaims ore made and depending upon the correct clue and all numbers checked being correct, the last number checked off by the ciaimont will be the criterion for awarding the prizes occording to the priority of the number published on that day from left to the right.
- 4. If there is a tie, the winning name will be drawn from a hat.
- 5. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence can be entered into. Employees of the Arab Times and Ai-Seyassah Organisation and their families are not eligible to
- 6. No responsibility can be accepted for delayed or missing entries, or offered or mutilated entries although the date franked an envelopes will be occepted so long as it is prior to the competition starting date. Envelopes without nomes, initials on the back, initials in front, and those received after the closing time detailed on this form will be disqualified.
- 7. No numbers of any time will be told over the telephone.
- 8. Claims must be on the same day's numbers. Claims with previous day's numbers will not be entertained.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT.

This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified

When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:

Bingo. Arab Times. P.O. Box 2270. 13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is 10 deliver by hand to the Arab Times. Al-Seyassah Building. Airport Road. Shuwaikh.

GCC citizens now allowed to trade in Kuwait

Right to stipulate partnership reserved

THE Minister of Commerce and Industry Faisal Abdul Razzaq Al Khaled has issued a ministerial decision allowing GCC nationals to practice wholesale trading businesses in Kuwait, under which GCC citizens will be treated on an equal footing with their Kuwaiti counterparts.

The clauses under this decision provide that the beneficiaries of this law can run their businesses on their own but they must be resident in Kuwait and running only

Draft law

allows state

trade unions

THE Council of Ministers has recently approved a draft decree allowing the government to dis-solve trade unions and federa-

tions. The new draft decree

introduces amendments to the labour law in the private sector of

1964 relieving the government from the need to go to courts in case it needs to dissolve a trade

union or a federation. The new

amentment states that the gover-

nment can dissolve a trade union

or a federation in case of viola-

tions in accordance with a

recommentation by the minister

The amendment allows the dissolving of the trade union or

the federation in several cases

including if it becomes incapable

of meeting its financial commitments or if public interests or

security necessitates the dissoln-

The amendment allows the

self-dissolving of the trade union and federation by a decision by

the general assembly.

for US

citizens

US Internal Revenue Service will visit Kuwait again this year to give guidance and assistance to US taxpayers in filing their 1989

tax returns. She will be in Kuwait beginning Sunday, March 25 through Saturday, March 31.

For further information please contact the American Embassy

You may also contact the IRS office at the US embassy in

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Mrs Vicki

Hodes may be reached Saturday

through Wednesday, from 8.30 am till 12.00 noon. And 1.00 pm

till 4.00 pm. Telephone (00966)

Changes

The deduction for each exem-

ption, that is for you, your

spouse and each dependent has

been increased to \$2,000 from

\$1,950 for 1989. Remember! You must list the social security num-

ber of each dependent age 2 or

older you claim on your 1989

The 1989 standard deductions

are: Single \$3,100; married filing

jointly or qualifying widow(er) \$5,200; married filing separately \$2,600 and head of housebold

There are different standard

deductions in the instructions for

individuals age 65 or older or hlind, and for individuals who

can be claimed as a dependent on

All government cheques,

including IRS refund cheque, are

now valid for only one year and

not valid for renewal/reissuance.

If you have not received your

1988 tax refund you should con-

tact the Riyadh IRS office to

obtain a claim form. Cheques

issued prior to October I, 1989, are valid until September 30,

The tax rates remain the same as in 1988! 5 per cent and 28 per

cent. The foreign earned income exclusion remains \$70,000. IRA

someone cise's return.

(1) 488-3800 cat. 206.

at telephone 2424151 ext. 263.

of Social Affairs and Labour.

to dissolve

one business in one location.

Other clauses stipulate that upon practice of this activity by a company registered in the name of a GCC citizen, the ministry has the right to stipulate the participation of Kuwaiti citizens in the ownership of this company by a percentage of share not exceeding 50 per cent.

Moreover, the beneficiaries must abide by the codes, rules and by-laws enforced by

the State of Kuwait on its citizens, and that they must obtain the necessary licences in line with the procedures applicable to Kuwaiti citizens.

Additionally, the heneficiary will import and export his merchandise in accordance with the system in force the State of Kuwait including the system regulating the property of associate and regulating the practice of agencies, and that the licensed beneficiary will provide all maintenance requirements and

insurance in line with the agencies system regulations.

The clauses also provide that wholesalt GCC beneficiaries will enjoy all right available to Kuwaiti citizens, including access to public services and utilines, and that companies registered in the name of GCC citizens can open up branches to practice their trade and obtain the names are licenses.



Soviet official received

Lindersecretary of the Ministry of Electricity and Water, Abdulla Al Munayes received recently the directorgeneral of Soviet energy resources and the accompanying delegation. Bilateral relations were discussed during the meeting.

Agricultural development

Arab League aims at Tax-time enhancing efficiency

THE Arab League has set up different organisations and specialised economic and vocational unions aimed at realising the Leagues' objectives, among which, the Arab League established the Arab Organisation for the Arab Agricultural Development

To highlight the workings of this organisation, a local daily interviewed the Director of Foreign Relations Department at Kuwait's Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources. Amir Maarafi who confirmed that setting up this organisation is aimed among others at enhancing cooperative relations among Arab countries in the ricultural field, in addition to co-ordinating relevant efforts.

Additionally, the official said that the authority aims at developing buman resources working in the agricultural area and improving relevant investment opportunities in addition to upgrading productive efficiency and increasing vegetable cultivation and animal production so as to achieve economic integration in the agricultural field among. Arab countries.

He said that the organisation spares no effort to increase agricultural development in the member states in addition to conducting several economic feasibility studies in the Arab countries. He disclosed that during the last few years, the organisa-tion had prepared about 500 studies reflecting the agricultural problems facing Arab countries and also at expanding the productive base. Maarafi said that the most prominent study.

carried out by the organisation concentrated on setting up of Arab strategy and food security programmes and added that Kuwait is playing a vital role towards realising these objectives. In this respect, the organisation had prepared a climatical Atlas covering different areas of the Arab world.

KUWAIT, March 10, (Kuna): Social Affairs and

Labour Minister Sheikh Nas-

ser Mohammed Al Ahmed Al

Jaber returned here last night

from Cairo after attending

the 18th conference of the

Arab Labour Organisation.

Sbeikh Nasser, talking to

Kuna at the airport, said the

conference was fruitful as it

represented a step forward on

the path toward joint Arab

action in the labour and social

He said the conference's

discussions were objective in

which labour problems were

tackled with a genuine desire

to reach realistic solutions.

affairs areas.

directory which contains all the names and addresdirectory which contains all the names and addresses of Arab experts working in the agricultural field in addition to preparing of the Arab Agricultural Dictionary of 18 voluntes which contains over 20,000 terms in Arabic, English and French languages. This is a serious attempt to unity agricultural terminology, the official said.

Speaking of the scientific research carried out by the organisation, Maarafi said that it has concluded agreements with about 13 international centure for

agreements with about 13 international centres for agricultural research and these centres had positively responded to the need to provide training opportunities for the Arab staff working in the agricultural field in addition to co-ordinating efforts between the national and regional research centres.

The organisation has gained international confidence which is represented in concluding different contracts between the organisation and 14 other international organisations and institutions in addition to five advanced countries in the agricultural field and a number of Arab and international and financial institutions such as the World Bank, Islamic Development Bank, Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

The organisation had adopted several training courses, including Fish Culture Training Course which took place in Hungary, Agricultural Mechan-ism that took place in Baghdad, Enhancing of the Nutritional Value of Fodder which occurred in Damascus, Syria, in co-operation with the Arab Centre for Studying Arid and Drought areas and the Syrian Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Ministry in addition to a training course in the field of Designing Irrigation Systems which took place in Abn Dhabi and another training course held at Rabat, Morocco on Tissue Culture and the disease in palm seedlings.

He underlined the need for

collective Arah action for

such problems to be effec-

tively solved and for points of

disagreement to be elimin-

Sheikh Nasser lauded the

air of understanding and

dialogue prevailing among

Arab countries and described it as an "achievement" that

deserves to be enhanced and

expanded on a political and

economic basis so that the

possible would not be

squandered in pursuit of the

He said the conference was

a success in its deliberations

impossible."

and organisation.

NEWS IN

Sabah banquet
TUNISIA, March 10. (Kuna)
Kuwait's Deputy Premier and
Foreign Minister Sbeikh Sabah Al Ahmed bosted a banque today in bonour of the minister participating in the 3rd session o

the Arab League Council.

The banquet was attended in the Arab foreign ministers and heads of delegations, league secretary-general Chadli Khi and the permanent representatives as well as Sheikh Sabah accompanying delegation

Fahd meets Diouf

RIYADH, March 10, (Kuna)
Saudi monarch King Fahd Bu
Abdul Aziz conferred here las
night with visiting Senegales
President Abdou Diouf.
Discussions during the meet

ing centred on the latest develop ments on the Arab and Islam platforms, in addition to issues o mutual concern.

Talks also focused on ways o

fostering bilateral relations between the two countries, Radir Riyadh reported.

The meeting was attended to the Saudi and Senegalese delega-tions grouping Saudi Prince Sal-man Bin Abdul Aziz, Amir, 6 Riyadh Region, Prince Moham med Bin Fahd Bin Abdul Anz Amir of the Eastern Region King Fahd's private chancello Ibrahim Al Angari and Saud

Ambassador to Senegal.

The Senegalese delegation which attended the meeting grouped Foreign Minister Ibra him Fall, Abdon Diout's special advisor Gill Ambar, in addition to other officials.

Haroon In Syria

DAMASCUS, March 10
(Kuna) The visiting Kuwait
Undersecretary of Higher
Emicanon by Mosale Rashid A
Haroon begins talks with Synair

officials here today.

Discussions with Syrian Mini-ster of Higher Education Kama Sharaf, president of Damascus University and other officials from the Higher Education Mile istry will focus on ways of enhancing bilateral cultural relations, scholarship system and

. Haroon, who arrived here last night from Amman for a threeday visit, will also get acquainted with the developments of higher education in Syria and the system of matriculating university degrees. He will also meet with the

Kuwaiti students studying in Syria to discuss their needs and to Syria to discuss under sexamine their problems.

Education meet

KUWAIT, March 10, (Kuna): Education Undersceretary Abdul Rahman Al Khodari said today that the symposium on unifying mathematics curricular at Arab Gulf secondary schools aims at enriching the educational

process to a great extent.
In his opening speech at the symposium, sponsored by the Arab Centre for Educational Research for Gulf states, Khodari affirmed that organis-ing such a scientific gathering is bright proof of the centre's pessistent efforts toward unifying scholastic curricula.

Personnel talks

KUWAIT, March 10; (Kuna); Head of the Communications Ministry's Human Resources Ministry's Human Resources
Department Mohammed at
Refai left for Sweden t
talks with executives
prominent Swedish which specialises in
training.
He told Kana he wo
with the company's at
latest administrative meth as
staff promotion resources.

staff promotion mo

Floating eye hospital to leave Middle East in April

Labour conference a success: Nasser

He said such problems as unemployment, illiteracy,

poor productivity and inef-

liciency were threatening the

Arab world's economies and

social fabric.
Sbeikh Nasser was greeted

by Farwaniya Mayor Sheikh

Ahmed Al Hmoud, Labour

Undersecretary Issa Yassin,

Kuna's Board Chairman and

Director General Barges Hmoud Al Barges and several

ministry officials.

Kuwait, he added, is com-

mitted to implementing all the

steps agreed upon and recom-

mendations would also be

carried out after being revi-

ewed by senior officials.

THE Soviet floating eye hospital, Floks, is to leave the Middle East next month.

Floks management say no more operations will be performed on board the ship, which is currently berthed in Jebel Ali near Dubai, after April 5, though diagnoses will continue up until April 13. Some Soviet trained doctors will remain in the

UAE to carry out post-operative checks on those patients who undergo operations in the final weeks of our stay bere," said a Folks spokeswoman.

Doctor Minas Atamian bas been appointed onboard medical liaison officer 10 help patients who

may have problems or queries.
Floks arrived in Dubai last October for a sixmonth stay, Jebel Ali was chosen as its first major operational port of call outside of the Eastern bloc because of an unprecedented demand from Middle

East patients for Soviet eye surgery.

By the end of last month a total of 9.607 people

had visited the ship in Jebel Ali to undergo diagnoses - more than one quarter later underwent surgery. Aimost a third of the patients came from the UAE

but the figure also includes 1 352 from Oman: 1,133 from Saudi Arabia: 741 from Kuwait; 541 from Bahrain; 478 from Qatar; 413 from Jordan and 283 The Petr Pervyy, a former car carrier, was convered into a hospital ship last year at a cost of \$12.75

million. The hrainchild of famed Soviet eye surgeon, Professor Svyatoslav Fyodorov, the vessel houses a seven-stage computerised diagnostics centre and multi-station operating theatre.

Teams of Fyodorov-trained surgeons on board

carry out the latest eye micro-surgery lechniques including keratocoagulation, vaser-reconstruction and negative lens implantation.

On April 14, the Petr Prevyy will be dry docked in

The Floks floating eye hospital — just one more month in the l



Security men foil major smuggling attempt

Capital governor promises better facilities

KUWAIT city governor Sheikh Jaber Abdullah Al Jaber has said that security men have successfully been able to foil an attempt to smnggle 250,000 drug pills worth thousands of dinars.

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He told a local daily that a total of 49 attempts to smuggle liquor, 64 others involving drugs of different kinds and 572 cases of eve teasers had been registered.

The governorate is currently engaged in a number of organisational projects in different administrative, social and health facilities which were aimed at facilitating public services end overcoming existing difficulties the official said and disclosed

Hungary's

Palestinian

says envoy

KUWAIT, March 10, (Kuna): A ranking Hungarian diplomat here affirmed that his country's

pro-Palestinian stance has not

been tarnished by the restoration

of diplomatic relations between

Budapest and Tel Aviv, and said

that his country has officially

recognised the state of Palestine.

In an interview with a local Arabic daily, Hungarian Ambassador to Kuwait Balint

Gal stressed that his country did

not recognise the occupation of Palestinian lands in 1967, "and

we will not do so in light of our

believes that a UN-sponsored

international conference, with

the participation of all parties

concerned is the ideal mean

toward a solution of the Mideast

On the Palestinian-Israeli

dialogue. Gal said that many

efforts' are being exerted to con-

vince parties involved to aban-

don their stuhborn stances,

expressing optimism toward

Jewish emigration to Israel, he

said the freedom of movement is

guaranteed hy human rights and

democracy, but settling Jews in

the occupied Arab territories is

totally against UN resolutions.

In this respect, Gal affirmed that there is no Jewish emigration from his country to Israel, Western Europe, or the US.

Commenting on the Lebanese situation, he said that following the endorsement of the Taif accord last year his government.

accord last year, his government

possible in war-ravaged

Lebanon, but stressed that situa-

ion looks dim amid the current

On the Iraq-Iran conflict, the

Hungarian ambassador said that

his country enjoys deep-rooted relations with both Muslim

neighbours and attaches great

importance toward ending the

state of no-war no-peace bet-

ween them through negotiations.

On relations with Kuwait, he

said that they are heading toward' the better in all fields, "and we

are happy over our ties with

Kuwait, which began in 1974

Athome, he said that in light of

the new reforms, Hungary has

focussed on establishing a multi-

party system and a free economy

and pledged that parliamentary

relations will be held on time and

of the two German states is a

On Hungary's bid to join the EEC, the ambassador said that

such a decisinn is not merely

political and requires pushing

the Hungarian economy to the

ranks of the community's mem-

bers, but noted that the EEC

He said that the re-unification

new cabinet might follow.

until the present."

pure German affair.

hostilities in eastern Beirut.

was optimistic that a solution is

On Hungary's stance toward

realising this goal.

He said that Budapest firmly

new policy

links stay,

that several government and private agencies had sought contributions to these projects through co-operation with the governorate council members.

Stable

The security apparatus in the country operates under one agency and that is the Interior Ministry and that the existing cooperation beween the Ministry and the governorate was based on a strong commitment to security regulations to keep the state of security stable and under control, the governor said.

He drew a distinction beween the functions of Mukhtar and those of the gover-

Adult education students graduate

Under the patronaga of the assistant under-secretary for general education affairs Suad Al

Refal, and within tha framework of Kuwait's celebra-

tions of the international anti-illitaracy annivarsary,

tha Department of Education for adult lilitarates

held a special function to honour graduates of the

eighth batch of the anti-Illiteracy centres. These

Included Qadisiya, Falha, Granada, Rumaithiya,

Children's book exhibition

Eccleshare: selecting

literature for children

They are nnt reading historical

bonks, that's for sure," said

Fantasy

fiction and futuristic stories,

classic fantasies and imaginary

Children today prefer science

Parents advised to

Bayan and Alzahra centres of Education.

Arab Times staff

ARE CHILDREN reading

more books than we did when we

were kids? Maybe, maybe not

but the demand for literature for

children is growing, says Julia Eccleshare, children's literary

books selector of the Book Trust,

Julia is in Kuwait for the Brit-

ish Cnuncil's Children's Book

Exhibition which opened last

might.

She admits young people are being distracted by media like

television and video but they are

also reading as much, if nnt,

more than before, at least in the

UK. As an example, she cites the

growing number of titles which are published each year. At the moment, over 6,000 titles for children are published, she says.

"Parents are worried about education, and there is a great emphasis on developing a child's reading skills," said Julia. This means making books available

means making books available to children through clubs, school

libraries and other sources. Chil-

dren five years and older are

reading more and more books.

but apparently not as many as

London.

norate council members, pointing out that the former's were confined to preparing a list of all residents within the area under his supervision and to provide the security authorities with details of their residence addresses, issning the requested certificates and others.

He added that the functions of the governorate council members included the studying of proposed government projects, future plans and commenting an existing laws, adopting recommendations and supervising public affairs in the area.

He ruled out any intention to annexe

new areas to the existing governorate boundaries, following the issuance of the Amiri decree outlining the boundaries of the existing five governmrates and related

The existing budget of each governorate council is KD half a million which was enough tn meet its initial requirements. Other funds are expected to pour in from co-ops contributions and peoples donations and those endorsed by the Higher

The governors regularly met to exchange views and discuss important issues of public consequences.

230 to attend Transplant conference opens today

By Nashaat Al Agha

THE Second International Congress of the Middle East Society Organ Transplant -MESOT - will be opened today at 8.15 am at Kuwait Regency Palace Hntel under the patronage of the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla Al Sabah.

The secretary-general of the Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialisations Dr Abdulla Al Rifai and director of Hamed Al Essa Organ Transplant Centre Dr George Abuna held a press conference on the occasion. Rifai. said that the congress will be organised by MESOT in cooperation with Kuwait Foundation for Advancement of Science (KFAS), Kuwait University (Faculty of Medicine) and Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialisations (KIMS). About 230 scientists, specialists and surgeons will attend the congress and will discuss the latest medical and scientific methods of transplanting different organs. He added that Kuwait has been acclaimed for its proficiency in the field of transplanting kidneys and pancreas. It is time to start a major national campaign to encourage people to contribute their organs. Kuwait has issued a transplant law supported by the Islamic Sharia. He added that famous Muslim scholars supported organ transplants and called on relatives of dead people to agree to permit the donation of organs of their deceased

Dr George Abuna who is also the head of the organisational committee of the congress and e chairman of MESOT (based in Ankara) said that the congress will be held from 11/3 to 15/3/90. The organisational committee has selected 204 papers to be reviewed and discussed during the meetings out of 260 research papers received by the committee from different medical centres in the world including the Middle

He added that 30 researches will also present their papers during the congress.

Abuna pointed out that there will be 14 sessions on the transplant of organs like kidney. heart, lung, liver, pancreas cells and bone marrow. There might be an exhibit of the latest medical equipment and medicines that are used in transplant surgeries.

The visitnrs and guests will enjoy a daily programme to visit the touristic places and landmarks of Kuwait besides social activities.

He added that a grand Arabic public seminar will be held on Wednesday March 14 between 6 and 8 pm on the problems and snlutions of donating organs in Kuwait and the Middle East. Donations

Kuwait's Minister of Planning and Acting Minister of Public Health and the Chairman of Kuwait's Organs Transplant Society, Dr Abdulrahman Al A wadi was quoted as saying that about 750 citizens and residents have joined the society to date.

In an interview with a local daily, Awadi said that these members had registered their approval to donate their negans after death. He disclosed that out of eight dead members last year. the families of four had agreed to donate their organs. However, he said that this level could be considered encouraging, viewed in the light of customs and tradi-

However, he was optimistic that with heightened awareness to the importance of donating organs in a bid to save lives, specially kidneys, the response in the number of members who will be willing to donate their organs after death and the compliance with their wishes by members of their families will also increase.

He said that a ministerial decision had been issued in this respect to organise the issue and several committees are being for-

eminent professionals.



Amir receives Beigian Crown Prince

HH the Amir received Belgian Crawn Prince Albert and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Services Affairs Issa Mohammad Al Mazidi and Belgian Ambassedor to

Healthy economy

Burgan Bank to heighten overseas activities: Ahmad

THE Burgan Bank has envisaged plans to develop its existing functions and introduce new activities during the decade of the 1990s at both the local and international levels.

The bank will increase its involvement in the banking activity hy increasing its securities portfolio and procure new financial resources by having new investment projects. Sheikh Ahmad Abdulla Al Ahmad, the chairman and managing director of the bank said.

Healthy

The official said that the bank vill also increase its branches by expanding its presence in various housing areas. Additionally, the bank will strive to have different activities in international markets and benefit from the changes in East Europe and the European Community that will come on the scene by the end of 1992. The bank will open branches in these markets and will also be actively involved in a number of other countries that achieved success in industrial and financial projects like in the Far East, he

healthy pace and is stable after having suffered from local and foreign negative factors during the last period. The national economy of Kuwait is affected by the economies of other countries, the official said. However, he added that economic liberality of East Europe, the economic unity of Europe by the end of t 992 and the appearance of new industrial communities in the world with ahilities of Kuwait to export surplus of capital investments abroad will all be positive factors on the performance of the

national econnmy. He commented that the stability of oil prices and predictions of an increase in the future coupled with the stability of the local scene after the end of the Iraq-Iran war will positively help the national economy rebound. He praised the report of the joint economic committee and said that it will activate the national economy. The most important issue mentioned in the report is the settling of dehts taken from banks by citizens that amount to less than KD250,000. The recommendations in this respect will help dehtors to resume their activities again, the official said and praised the recommendation

cial institutions.

Ahmad pointed out that the law of investment funds that will be issued in the near future will activate the national economy. He added that the level of savings in Kuwait is very large due tn the high incomes. But, he commented that the savings of non-Kuwaitis which till now have not been invested in the stock market will be invested after the inssuance of the new law in the shape of investment funds. The non-Kuwaitis will be allowed to possess real estates, but only through these funds. This is intended in develop the economic activities and increase prices of real estates and the stock market.

The banking official said that national banks, including Burgan Bank believe in the necessity to replace non-Kuwaiti manpower with Kuwaitis without adversely affecting hanking services. This scheme will provide the vehicle to attract new graduates to the banking sector. These new graduates could then be provided intensive training courses in the multifacet try to qualify them to take up senior positions, Ahmad said.

New course system at KU soon

TO MEET certain demands of students and introduce amendments to overcome existing shortcomings, it is hoped that Kuwait University will introduce new academic course systems during the next academic session.

The university could also study the cases of students who were dismissed according to the present charter if amended, Dr Abdulla Al Fihaid, dean of students affairs at Kuwait University said. He added that the university could then study the appeals of these students that are submitted individually on the basis of reasons mentioned in these appeals.

He praised the model stands taken by the Union of Kuwait Students and added that the union has explained and rejected the present charter within the framework of co-operatinn and understanding taking into consideration the interests of the educational strategy in the country.

He said that the committee on guidance and

week to discuss and review proposals of faculties about amending the charter that was founded in 1986. One of these proposals relates to cancelling the grade (pass D) for students who get 2 paints nut of 4 and replace it with the grade (good). He stressed on the need to study the reasuns that are attributed to extending warnings to students and methods of eradicating them and recommended

that intensive courses should be instituted or providing fnr admissinn exams.

Meanwhile, the head of Kuwait students uninn at the university Naser Al Enzi said that administra-

tion of the university is going about slowly in amending the charter of the courses system. It promised to finish the problem during the last Fall session but did not dn anything until new. He addedthat the present charter was the reason that hundreds nf students at Kuwait University are dismissed every session. The union moved to express its rejectinn tn the charter and called on the university to speed up



Guerlain's 'Samsara' launched

Samsara the 'tnfinita cycle of births and rebirth' is Guerlein's new fregrence, introduced to Kuwait. The oriental, amber based l'agrence is e mixture ol sandalwood and Jasmine enveloped in iris, rose, violets end parcissus. A complete range of Samsara was introduced to satisfy all customars.

Picture shows Jean le Breton, Export Director - Guerlain (centre) during a press conference held et the Meridien Hotel to promote the new fragrance.

encourage reading natural edge, funny animal tales and anything children can relate to, be it contemporary life or imaginary stories.

Books by Roald Dahl are bestsellers and much in demand.

Julia describes his books as

funny, slightly rude, irreverent,

unusual and child centred."

The function was held at the Qadsiya centre for

women and the director of the department About

Aziz Al Najdi delivered the opening speech in which

he congratulated graduates on their outstanding

performance. He stressed tha incessant govern-

ment support to combat illiteracy in the country and

facilities available to eradicate this problem. Picture

shows a graduata receiving her certificate from

Some of Dahl's best-sellers are Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, BFG and Matilda. Its important that adults recognise good books for children, recognise quality writing and encourage children to read

Other popular writers are Dick King-Smith, Jan Mark, Margaret Mahy, John Christopher and Monica Hughes.

She advises parents tn select readable books, irrespective of content, with illustrations to match and an understanding nf

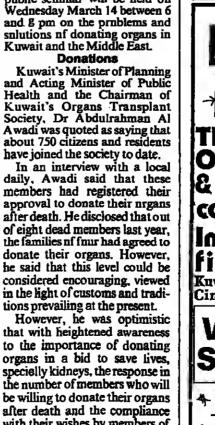
"It's not what children like to read, it's important hnw well you tell the story," she said. Some Children's Books of the

Year are: Bye Bye Baby (Janet and Allan Ahlberg); Goggle Eyes (Anne Fine); The Sheep Pig (Dick King-Smith); The Beary Tale (Anthony Brown); The Snowman (Raymond Smith); The Changeover (Margaret Mahy); Man in Mntinn (Jan Mark); Going On a Bear Hunt (Helen Oxenburg); Oi! Get Off My Train (John Burningham) and Quick! Let's Get Out Of Here (Michael Rosen).

Publishing for children has become big business in the UK. More and more publishers are recognising the money in children's bnnks, cnnsequently improving their status. But children's books are considered a luxury and are sold at specialist outlets. In recent years, they have been made available at supermarkets in the hope of pushing

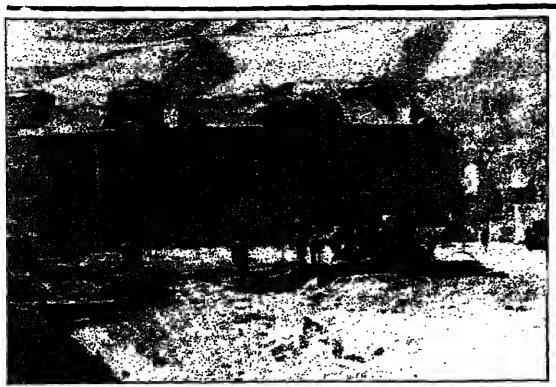
up sales. "Books remain a minority culture, and as there is not as much money in it as toys, and there is e lack of publicity. But there is e growing demand for exploiting the market," said Julia. There is also a need to encourage children to take up reading. This not only helps them to learn the skills but also instills an interest in reading for pleasure, she added.

A selection of 400 titles convering a wide range of subjects from science and maths to history and people are being exhibited at the British Council. which is holding the show in cooperation with the British Book Shop. Books on display will be sold at @ 20 per cent discount.



med to study the issue. Replying to a query on the Hamed Al Issa Centre for Kidney Disease, the official commended the centre's contributions as distinguished and added that the centre was staffed with





A dug-in tank and troops loyal to Afghan Prasident Najib surround the Ministry of Delence in Kabul yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

Egypt vows to crush threats against unity

Crackdown on fundamentalists

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Arab League HQ

Assad criticised

the world."

WASHINGTON, March 10, (AP): The US State Department said yes-

terday that Syrian President Hafez

Assad, in denouncing democratic chaoge in Eastern Europe and calling

for an endiess war against Israel, "is out of step with the enormously promising changes unfolding around

Margaret Tutwiler, the depart-

ment's spokeswoman, said the peo-ple of the Middle East, iocluding the people of Syria, bave "no need for more bellicose thetoric."

Rather, she said, they need "real

statesmanship and commitment to

the practical steps needed to bring

about a Palestinian-Arab dialogue

leading to a comprehensive peace set-

Workers continue construction of the Arab League headquarters in

Tunis. Arab Leagua foreign ministers meel today to detrate an Egyptian

proposal for a return of the headquarters of tha 22-member organisa-

lion lo Cairo. (Reuler wirepholo)

school students.

CAIRO, March 10, (UPI): Egypt's Islamic affairs minister said authorities would crack down on anyone threatening national unity, after clashes between Muslim Fundamentalists and security forces this week left at least one person dead, a Cairo

newspaper reported yesterday. "The state will strike with an iron fist anyone trying to undermine national unity," the daily Al Akhbar quoted Islamic Affairs Minister Mobammed Ali Mahgouh as telling a government-organ-ised rally on Thursday at Ahu Qurqas, 125 miles (200-km) south of Cairo.

'This applies to Muslims and non-Muslims alike," be said.

The rally followed clashes between Islamic fundamentalists and security police when extremists set fire to Coptic courches and shops, killing at least one person and injuring a police officer.

The violence apparently erupted after distribution of a pamphlel decrying affairs between Coptic Christian men and Muslim women, Al Akhbar said. Fundamentalists were also reported to have burned down a candy factory after hearing rumours

Rebels killed

KHARTOUM, March 10, (Reuter); Sudanese troops killed 40 rebels and

destroyed a Soviet-made tank when

they repulsed an attack on the town

of Yei io southern Equatoria, the

official Sudan News Agency (Suna)

It quoted a military communique

as saying troops captured arms and ammunition from the Sudan Peo-

ple's Liberation Army unit which was repelled after fierce fighting.

One soldier was killed and six were

wounded in the clashes which took

place on Thursday, the agency said.

UNITED NATIONS, March 10.

(Reuter): The United States and the

Soviet Union are working together to

get emergency food sbipments through rebel lines in Ethiopia,

where five million people face starva-

tioo because of drought and civil war, a US Congressman said yesterday.

Democrat, told reporters the main problem was not finding donors but

distributing relief in areas held by

Ethiopian rebels where most of the

hungry live.
"There is a co-operative action

between the Soviet Unioo and the

United States to get this accompli-

ANKARA, March 10, (UPt): A sen-

ior Turkish journalist was sum-moned to the police and public prosecutor's office and questioned

about his sources in a news leak regarding talks between President

Uluc Gurkan, a senior reporter in the tstanhul newspaper Gunes Wednesday published a full page report containing the minutes of discussions Bush and Ozal held in Washin-

corge Bush and Turkish President Turgut Ozal, his colleagues said yes-lerday.

shed," he said.

News leak

Thomas Foglictta, a Pennsylvania

Relief efforts

that the Coptic owner's son was having an affair with a Muslim girl. Marriage between Christian men and Muslim women is discouraged in Egypt. Since then, the Interior Ministry said it had released a number of detainees, including 30 high

Coptic and Muslim religious leaders agreed at the rally to promote national unity in churches,

mosques, schools and other organisations.

Mahgouh pledged that the government would compensate anyone whose property was damaged during the clashes.

Calling on moderate Egyptian Islamic leaders to help fight sectarian religious violence, Mustapha Al Fiqi, a political adviser to Egyptian President Hosni Muharak, accused Islamic fundamentalists of exploiting Egypt's relatively free political climate.

Fundamentalists were blamed for the 1981 assassination of Egyptian president Anwar Sadat. The Cairo government has retained a ban on the Muslim Brotherhood, and has admitted keeping in jail some 600 fundamentalists under emergency regulations.

THE RESERVE OF

Yemens' merger

ADEN. March 10, (Reuter): The leaders of North and South Yemen today moved their talks on unifica-

tion from the border towo of Taiz to

Aden, the Aden news agency said.

There was no explanation for the

decisioo to move the talks from Taiz,

where North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Ali Salem Al

Baidb, secretary-general of the ruling South Yemeni Socialist Party, have

TUNIS, March 10, (AP): An Israeli

pacifisi recently released from jait for

meeting members of the PLO

announced today that he has held

been meeting since Thursday.

Pacifist claim

Bombing began as Najib had lunch

KABUL, March 10, (AP): President Najib had just finished lunch when bombs came a few feet (metres) from toppling his gov-

Shortly after 1 pm Tuesday, several bombs rocked the presidential palace, kill-ing four soldiers from the elite presidential quard. One cluster of three small bombs gouged out two craters and gutted an administrative office 12 feet (four metres)

from where Najih was working.

The force of the blast cracked the walls of Najih's office, said Lt Col Mohammad lassan, who was on duty at the time. Windows shattered around the President hut be apparently emerged unscathed. The explosions were terrible," Hassan

north of the capital Kabul, remained

closed today.

Rebel military planes flew throughout
Tuesday and Wednesday from Bagram to bomb the presidential palace and other military installations in Kahul before the government said loyal troops captured the

Bagram had more than 60 military planes when the coupled by Defence Minister Colonel-General Sbahnawaz Tanai was launched on Tuesday.

Tanai, a hardline Marxist opposed to compromise with Muslim rebels fighting the government, was sacked after the coup attempt and was still at large.

He had been at odds with Najibullah

ment's Marxist philosophy and to appease the Western-backed rebels. The Afghan government has accused

Tanai of conspiring with Gulhuddin Hek-matyar, the most radical of the Muslim rebel leaders battling the Soviet-supported

Kabul government. .Government sources said only about five planes staged the air raids during the coup attempt.

Some were reported to have been forced to fly, but they did not bomh and simply landed at other airports, the sources said.
Pilots loyal to Najibullab bombed

Bagram runways making it difficult for rebel pilots to take off, the sources said. This explains why the number of rebel

said at least five MiG-21 and Sukhoi-2 Soviet-built planes took part in the bomb

These sources bowever said it was possi ble some planes took turns with those at Bagram so the total number of rebel aircraft over the capital did not exceed the

estimated number. Najibullah has purged his ruling party after the most serious attempt yet to over

throw the administration. He told a news conference on Thursday the coup attempt was crushed and pledged to pursue "national reconciliation" with mujahedeen rebels who have waged civil

Iran exposes adventurism

US, Israel plan to rescue hostages

NICOSIA, Cyprus, March 10. (AP): An Iranian newspaper today said a "media blitz" on the US bostages in Lebanon was designed in part to prepare the American public for a military mission to try to free them.

But a key Muslim leader in Beirut, Mohammed Hussein Fadlallab, spiritual leader of Hezbollah, said of the hostages. we believe there are encouraging elements regarding readiness to deal with this issue.

Fadlallah was answering a question from the daily news-paper Al Liwa if he thought the hostages would be released in

On Feb 23, after returning from a trip to Iran, Fadlallah had called in a sermon for "realistic. and humanitarian means to free the bostages." Hezbollah is believed to be an umbrella for groups bolding some of the 18

Western hostages. Kayban International, in an editorial today, said a US military rescue mission, involv-ing Israel, would "end the socalled crisis with the death of at least the American hostages."

The newspaper cited no source or facts to back its assertions.

· Eight American hostages are among the 18. Westerners being held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon. The longest held is Terry Anderson, the chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, who was abducted March 16, 4985 12 112 mother reason for the US flos-

on military adventurism, the hostages will in fact be a pretext take part in to for crippling the Islamic struction.

The paper said other reasons for the current media campaign in the US press is to evaluate the reaction on Iranian officials and to use the humanitarian aspect to

put pressure on Iran: America, which is unable to understand Iran, "is in the process of assessing what will be the price of a possible transaction, Kayhan said.

It said the attempt to pressure Iran through stressing the humanitarian aspect of the hostage issue is a particularly wrong-headed approach."

The Kayhan editorial was reported by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Nicosia. The tone of the Kayban

editorial was in snarp contrast to other recent editorials in the Tehran Times, known to be close to Iranian President Hashem Rafsanjani, calling for release of the hostages, and to a statement this week by Rafsanjani that the hostage issue was nearing solu-Kayhan's positions are often

at variance with those of Rafsan-

jani, who is attempting to consolidate his hold on power in Iran. Rafsanjani is opposed by radicals who disagree with his wish to end Iran's isolation and gain Western participation in rebuilding the country after eight years of war with Iraq. ______ The Kayhan editorial said

positioning American fiftills to take part in the Iranian recon-

concerned that Shamir was dismissing US objections to the resettlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip and East

West Bank, which Washington has always opposed, to the densely-populated neighbourhoods the Israelis have constructed around

ced Israel's policy of resettling Soviet Jews in the occupied Arab

Jordan pardons illegal workers

AMMAN, March 10, (AP): Labour Minister Qaseem Obeidat announced that Jurdan will not prosecute an estimated 225,000 illegal foreign workers on a condition they leave the country within two months and never return, a Jordanian newspaper

The English-language daily Jurdan Times said Obeidat announced that the decision was effective immediately. The mini-ster was not available for a com-

Obeidat's latest policy supercedes the government's January order giving foreign workers two months to obtain legitimate work

It follows a series of strict povernment measures aimed at freeing jobs for the estimated 85,000 unemployed Jordanians. "All illegal fureign labourers can leave the country now without paying any fines or facing other legal proceedings," Obeidat told

the newspaper. The minister was referring to a labour law which stipulates that foreigners working illegally in Jordan should be penalised a 50 dinars (\$85) a mouth and 90 days

in prison for each month of viola-Obeidat was quoted as saying that in exchange for amnesty foreigners working illegally have to sign an affidavit that they will never return to Jordan, not even

The newspaper said the mini-ster stressed that the armesty would only last for only two mon-

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Mudar Badran vowed to freeze government funding for projects if employers hired foreign workers instead of Jordanians.

He also demanded that at least 70 per cent of the workers hired by foreign contractors be Jordanians and that a Jordanian partner be involved.

In January, the Labour Minis-try stopped issuing new permits for foreign workers and announ-ced a crackdown on the 225,000 unregistered foreigners. They said there were some 375,000 foreign workers in the country out of a total work force of some 700,000.

Although most foreign workers in Jordan came from Egypt, there were also sizeable numbers from Syria, Pakistan, India, Lebanon and Sri Lanka, Premier Mudar Badran told parliament recently.

The ministry also vowed to fine employers, who have preferred to hire foreigners who will work cheaply and for long hours.



Aoun ready to take 'vacation' Talks offer to Hirawi

BEIRUT, March 10, (UPI): Maverick Christian leader Gen. Michel Aoun expressed readiness to enter into direct dialogue with Syrian-backed President Elias Hirawi and step aside if an accord on resolving the 15-yearold civil war is reached, the An Nabar newspaper reported

The leading newspaper quoted Aoun as saying that he was ready to leave the presidential palace in Beirut's suburbs of Baabda and take "a vacation."

"Baabda (palace) is not an objective in itself. What is more important is to reach a solution acceptable to all Lehanese," Aoun said, "then I can take a

vacation. It was the first time the 54-year-old general showed readiness to step aside since former President Amin Gemayel appointed him to head a military cabinet on Sept 22, 1988.

Aoun said he was prepared to enter into direct, unconditional dialogue with President Hirawi regarding a peace accord ham-mered out in Taif, Saudi Arabia,

Oct 21. The application or abrogation of the Taif accord should not be

made a condition for the proposed dialogue, Aoun said. The Lebanese Parliament approved the agreement, which

for the past 40 days, while the Health Ministry warned that the water which arrives the capital from other places might be contaminated.

was backed by the Arab League,

but Aoun rejected the pact because it failed to custie a

speedy withdrawal of Sysian

He has also refused to recogn-

ise the authority of President

Hirawi, who was elected by the

parliament under the terms of the

Taif accord, and declared him-

self the head of the only

legitimate government in the

In an interview with United

Press International on Thurs-

day, Aoun said a solution that

would ease his concerns "could

mean adding only a comma" to

■ Beirut's residents have been

living through a water shortage

troops from Lebanon.

country.

the Taif pact.

The ministry urged citizens to add two drops of a steriliser to kill the bacteria, which contaminates the water. The western part of the capital

and its suhurbs have been managing without water, thanks to an arbitrary measure by ex-army commander Gen. Michel Aoun to stop pumping from the main water station, located inside his area of control.

was to prod Shamir WASHINGTON, March 10, (Reuter): The White House denied ves terday a published report that President George Bush meant to prod

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir by his recent remarks questioning Israel's sovereignty over East Jerusalem, and insisted Bush merely intended to restate US policy. There was no special motivation, it was in response to a question; White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said of a New York Times

report on Friday that Bush had deliberately raised the Jerusalem issue to ge: Shamir's attention. The report quoted anonymous US officials as saying that Bush was

"US policy toward East Jerusalem is unchanged," Fitzwater said al a

news conference, reading from a briefing paper. Bush has caused an uproar in Israel by equating settlements on the

occupied Jerusalem on land captured from Jordan in the 1967 war. In Vienna, the United Nations' Commission of Women has denour

Rafsanjani welcomes Iran-Iraq peace talks

ATHENS, March 10, (UPI): Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani yesterday welcomed a new UN initiative to resume the stalled Iran-Iraq peace talks, but said he has little bope it would lead to a lasting peace in the region, the official Islamic Republic News Agency

Speaking at prayer ceremonies in Tehran, Rafsanjani said Iran had accepted a proposal by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar for the Gulf peace talks to be resumed, but charged Baghdad with procrastinating.

If the new initiative failed, be said, "one day the Iranian people may have to use force to retake their territories.

"Although there are grounds for continuation of negotiations, Irna paraphrased Rafsanjani as saying. 'there is little bope for solving the problem because oppressive powers see their interests in prolonging the strife between the two countries."

"Hówever, we welcome this new move and bope Iraq gives up its mischiefs and the (big) powers would desist from causing any damage in this regard," Rafsanjani said.

The peace talks between the two sides began under UN auspices days after the August 1988 ceasefire that ended the eightyear Gulf war.

Iran said as the time that is agreed to a ceasefire based on UN Security Council resolution. which also called on the two sides to hold discussions toward a lasting peace in the region.

The talks broke down when Iran insisted that Iraq should pull its troops out of some 800 square miles (2,000 sq km) of Iranian territory before further discussions could be held.

fresh talks with the group's chair-man, Yasser Arafai. Archaeologists discover port

in Sinai desert CAIRO, March 10, (UPI): Japanese archaeologists have discovered a major port in Egypt's southern Sinai desert dating from the Ottoman and Mameluke periods, but the inhabitants of 20 homes will have 10 be relocated before work can continue. a Cairo newspaper reported yesterday.

"The Japanese expedition found a number of important archaeological number of important arenaeous data buildings constituting the ancient Tor city harbour, which overlooked the present day Suez harbour, the semi-official daily Al Ahram repor-

Tor harbour, one of the most important Red Sea ports in the Ottoman era, was a major outpost for East-West trade. Muslim pitgrims also used the harbour for their journeys to tslam's holy sbrines in Makkah and Medina between the 14th and 17th centuries, archaeolog-The Japanese mission will have to

pay two million Egypulan pounds (\$75,000) to the inhabitants of 20 exactly what powers Khaddali had been homes built above the new find, the newspaper said.

Libya invites US for talks on chem issue

ROME, March 10, (Kuna): An official of the Libyan Embassy here yesterday renewed his country's vigorous c' nial of Western reports that Libya was producing chemical weapons and invited the US to an open dialogue on the issue. The Libyan official, who wished to be unnamed, also expressed his

country's astonishment at the US reaction to those reports which originated in Western Europe and echoed by the American media. The Libyan official, while repeating Tripoli's denials of the allega-tion, said "we invite the American administration to an open, frank and sensible dialogue on the issue without (the US) jumping to an attitude

based on wrong and false reports. The USemhassy spokesman said his country's aim is to dismantle the Libyan Rabta chemical plant, claiming this was the only way, and not mere inspection, to ensure that no chemical weapons were being

produced. The official Libyan News Agency Jana appealed to Arab news agencies yesterday to combat a US "campaign of lies" regarding the Rabta chemical plant.



Workers taave the Rabta chemical factory in Theoli. (Reuter filephoto)

Libya's congress ends in stalemate: Khaddafi elevated to supreme leader

TRIPOLI, March 10, (Agencies): Libya's people's parliament has closed after an acrimonious row between the executive and deputies over financing the welfare state, with neither side the clear winner. However, the decision by the general

people's congress to elevate revolutionary leader Muammar Khaddafi to the status of supreme leader has given him the authority to over-rule any decision he disagreed with. Political observers said it was unclear

imbued with. The eight-day meeting of the congress.

which ended last night, passed a law saying Khaddafi's role in the 1969 revolution gave bim a legitimacy from which all the country's institutions derived their auth-

"So instructions issued by the leader of the great revolution, brother Colonel Muammar Khaddafi, are binding and it is a duty to carry them out," a declaration of revolutionary legitimacy said.

An earlier version said Khaddafl's directives had the force of laws passed by the basic people's congress, the local assemblies which theoretically ruled the country, but this was diluted by a congress

Jana, the agency, in a dispatch mon-itored in Rome, said the general people's congress declared that the Libyan people are against all types of weapons of mass

destruction including nuclear, bac-teriological and chemical ones.

Khaddafi's new status was meant to clear up ambiguities over his role after he repeatedly threatened to withdraw from the political arena, leaving the system to

committee, members said.

Neither side emerged victorious from the conflict between an executive trying to deal with declining revenues and congress

members with instructions to demand more subsidies, more free poblic services. and no new taxes or duties.

The local assemblies, at meetings across the country last month, told their delegates to reject tax reform measures and a health insurance scheme which would have required Libyans to contribute to health costs for the first time since off made the country rich.

accused themselves and those in charge of the local assemblies of "passing arbitrary." resolutions which have increased the bur-

At the same time, the congress members den on the popular committees."

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Japanese harmony

Fine examples of Japanese art ranging from prehistoric times to the 19th century are being shown at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York

By Theodore F. Wolff

NEW YORK: Few places exude so profound a sense of peace and serenity as the Japanese rooms in the metropolitan Museum of Art's Sackler Galleries for Asian Art. No outside sounds penetrate to this deeply interior area. The rooms are hushed and still, and the art, hung sparsely and judiciously in the Japanese manner, is subtle, muted and conducive to contemplation.

Every item on view is choice, whether it be a fragile piece of porcelain, an ancient, weather-beaten sculpture, or a folding screen depicting dramatic landscape vistas. Time seems to stand still. One becomes ware that the spaces between objects are almost as important as the things

A highlight at present is a special exhibition of 130 very fine examples of Japanese art from the collection of Peggy and Roger Gerry. It includes a wide variety of items ranging in time from prehistoric days of the 19 century. All were acquired by Gerry over the past four decades and have been promised to the metropolitan.

Dominating the collection, at least in size, are a pair of six-section screens from the studio of Kano Motonobu (1479-1559) depicting "Four Gentlemanly Accomplishments." One of the finest examples of its kind, this work celebrates the cultivated enjoyment of music, games of strategy, calligraphy, and painting. These accomplishments, rooted in Taoist ideals of retirement and harmony with nature, and tempered hy the Confucian tradition of wordly responsibility, are represented within a sweeping landscape symbolizing the eternal cycle of the

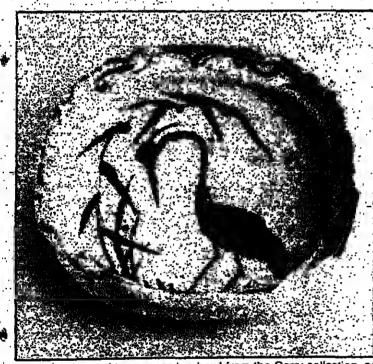
Cherished in private Japanese collections until 1927, these screens were painted to function not only as decorative items but as edifying that placed their owners within a long and lofty tradition of learning

Ceramic

On a humbler level is a group of outstanding ceramic utensils made for everyday use by Japanese craftsmen living as far back as 2500 B.C. and as recently as the 19th century. The finest have the aura and presence of major sculpture, although they were fashioned to serve as ordinary storage jars, flasks, or vases. Most are deceptively simple, with a minimum of decoration, and exceedingly subtle glazes. One of the most distinctive, a Sue ware, early Nara period (646-710) gray pottery flask, was acquired by the Gerrys in fragments. One can only imagine their surprise when the pieces were assembled to make an almost intact

The major portion of the show consists of over 90 examples of export porcelain of the sort sent abroad by the Japanese in the 17th and 18th centuries. Among the more attractive later pieces is a tankered fashioned in the shape of a pear and decorated with floral designs (late 17th century); a ewer (c. 1680) with a strap handle decorated with birds and peonies; and a teapot in the shape of a melon (late 17th century).

And last but far from least are the outstanding individual items scattered throughout the show. One of the most charming is a small (12and a half-inches high), 10th-century cypress "Flying Angel," while one of the most exous is a gold and silver illiustrated frontispiece of a religious text, one of nearly 5,000 scrols dedicated in 1176 to a clan temple.



A 16th century minoware serving bowl from the Gerry collection, or view at the Metropolitan Museum.

Next space mission

Hubble opens a window to space

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, (AP): Now that the space shuttle Atlantis is back on earth and its spy satellite in orbit. Nasa can focus on the April launch of discovery and its prestigious payload: a telescope that could belp scienosts understand the origins of the universe.

The 1.5 bilion-dollar astronomical observatory will be placed in orbit 370 miles (595 kilometres) above the earth for 15 years, allowing astronomers to study stars and galaxies so distant that their light has been travelling toward and the study of the study stars and calculated the study stars and calculated the study of the start of the study stars and calculated the study of the start of th

earth for 14 billion years. In other words, scientists will see what the objects looked like siter the creation of the universe.

The telescope will give scientists a window to space, unhindered by stmos-

pheric distortion, that could explain how sad why the cosmoc came to be. Hubble is going to have the same kind of impact "that Galileo's telescope had nearly four centuries ago, said Lennard Fisk, Nasa's chief scientist.

Like, Galileo's spyglass, an improvement of 10 times over the naked eye, the hubble space telescope will be "about a factor of 10 greater than anything we can do at present from the ground." Fisk said. "Whenever you make that kind of leap in sensitivity and resolution, you suddenly are able to see parts of the

universe that are only fuzzy to you at the moment."

Scientific information should be forthcoming one to two months after Discovery's scheduled lift off April 12, said Bill Taylor, the telescope's chief

engineer.
But Fisk said, "The real insight, the real in-depth study of astronomy will come back over a period of years."

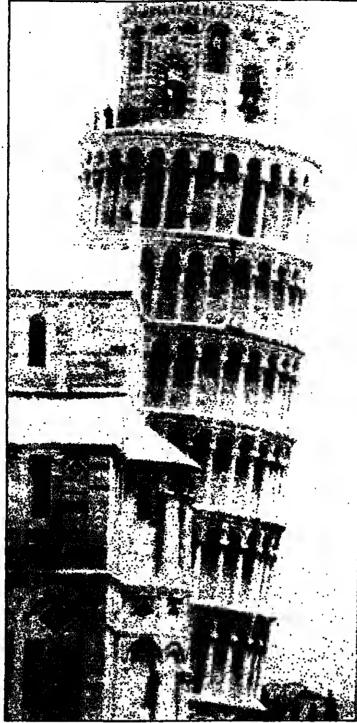
The first large optical telescope in space is named after the late American astronomers Edwin P. Hubble, who disvoovered that the universe is expanding.

The telescope's location above earth's atmosphere will enable the 25,000-pound (11,340-kilogram), 43-foot (13-metre) telescope to detect light of all wavelengths, including ultraviolet, before the light is aborbed or distorted by the

atmosphere.
It will look seven times more deeply into space and detect objects 50 times fainter and with 10 times greater clarity than the best ground-based observatory. Its eight-foot (2.4 metre) primary optical mirror is the most precise ever made. Images radioed down the telescope will take astronomers nearly to the edge of

Images radioed down the telescope will take astronomers nearly to the edge of the universe. They hope to ascertain the size of the universe and clear away some of the mystery surrounding quasars, pulsars and black holes.

One of the more pressing questions—are there other planetary systems and, if one of the more powerful telescope, so, are they inhabited? may have to wait for an even more powerful telescope. The hubble, the most expensive unmanned spacecraft ever huilt, originally was scheduled for launch in late 1983, but technical problems postponed liftoff. The Challenger explosion on Jan 28, 1986 delayed the mission until 1989, and concern over the Shuttle's solid rocket boosters pushed it back yet again.



The Leaning Tower of Pisa: closed to tourists

Stars face menace of obsessed fans

By Ronald Clarke

LOS ANGELES, (Renter): Clint Eastwood has a heence to have a gun for his protection. Cybill Shepherd says she sleeps with a gun in a drawer next to her bed. Stars are escorted by

bodyguards when they go to public functions. Comedian Eddie Murphy has four. Marion Brando has a closed

circuit television system to watch over his home. Some stars have 'panic buttons" which can snap down steel shntters over windows in an emergency.
Old Hollywood studios which

built up armies of fans for their stars, sending out million of autographs, have left behind and unexpected menace - the obses-

A Michigan man, Michael Shields, 42, is due to appear in court accused of sending 212 letters to actress Stephanie Zinbalist. a star of the television series. Remington Steele and daughter of Efrem Zimbalist Jr., of the long-running series The FBI.

Many of the letters were signed

'your secret admirer", an FBI agent, Lawrence Lawler, said.
One letter, attached to an FBI complaint, said: "You can run but you can't hide." Another said: 1 have some mischief in

Some of the letters contained photographs of the home of 31-year-old Zimbalist. "Miss Zim-balist is obviously relieved," a publicity agent said of the arrest of Shields, who faces charges of of Shields, who faces charges of sending threatening communications.

A security specialist, Gavin De Becker, said television stars are particularly vulnerable because people see them in their living rooms and think they know them personally. Security guards watch over audiences at the televising of some of the situation comdies.

Roberta Schaeffer, a star of the series "My Sister Sam", was shot dead when she answered a ring at her front door last July. Robert Bardo, 19, an unemployed caretaker described by police as obsessed by Schaeffer,



Eddie Murphy: four bodyguards

was ordered five days ago to stand trial for her murder.

Witnesses at a preliminary hearing said Bardo walked the streets showing a photograph of Schaeffer to people before she was killed. Threat

A shipping clerk, Tina Ledbetter, accused of sending nearly 6,000 threatening letters to Michael J. Fox, star of the Back to the Future films and the television series Family Ties, was ordered last December to stay away from the actor and to undergo psychiatrie counselling. She had spent 10 months in jail

awaiting trial. A Scottish drifter, Arthur Jackson, said he had a divine mission to take actress, Theresa Saldana to heaven when he stabbed her outside her Hollywood home in March 1982. He was due to be released from prison later this month, but new charges could keep him in jail longer, a parole board official said.

Saldana, who starred in the film Defiance, said: "This nightmare is far from being resolved."

A Canadian farmer, Robert Kieling, was convicted several times of harassing singer Anne Murray. He was alleged to have telephoned her 263 times in six

A security expert, Douglas Collins, said he and a team of security experts posted a roundthe-clock watch on Beatles drummer Ringo Starr and his family when fellow Beatle John Lennon was murdered by a fan.

Mark Chapman, in 1980.
"They didn't go out. It was a very emotional time because no one knew of there was a conspiracy against all of the Beatles," Collins said.

"John Hinekley was trying to impress actress Jodie Foster when he shot and wounded President Ronald Regan in Washington in 1981. "You'll be proud of me, Jodie, "He wrote to the actress.

"lt's very frightening for young actresses because they do not always have sufficient money to pay for security", Collins said. "It is really a shame out times demand this kind of thing."



Cybil Shepherd: sleaps with a

Leaning Tower of Pisa

Master plan for restoration put on hold

By Karen Wolman

ROME, (CSM): Questions have often been raised about whether the Leaning Tower of Pisa was born bent.

In fact, the legendary list that has made the tower a marvel for mediaeval scholars and an enigma for engineers the world over first started when the ground beneath it shifted only a few years after construction began in the 12th century.

Now, the campanile is swirling in a controversy over just how much longer it can continue its gravity-defying stand. The debate was touched off by a recent report by the Italian Min-istry of Public Works warning that the 14,000-ton marble monumeot was in imminent danger of toppling and suggesting it should be closed for repairs.

As a result, Pisa's mayor, Giacomo Granchi, decided to make one of Italy's top tourist attractions off-limits for the first time. Bells tolled out a dirge in mourning on Jan 7 when the tower was closed.

"Closure of the tower is mortifying for us and all Pisans," said Antonio Lazzarini of the Monument Preservation Committee, which oversees its maintenance,

"lt's definitely a defeat." In principle, Mayor Granchi was against closing the tower. He only grudgingly signed a tem-porary closure order after weeks of wrangling with Public Works Minister Giovanni Prandini failed to give the tower a more permanent reprieve. And to prevent bureaucratic delays from keeping the tower closed indefinitely, Granchi has vowed to reopen it unless restoration work begins in three months.

"We're waiting to see how the government will respond to the mayor's challenge," says Laz-

The mayor, who is backed by a bevy of local experts, argues that the commission sounded a false alarm and contends the tower is not at any greater risk now of collapsing than in the past.

Piero Pierotti, an expert on mediaeval architecture at the University of Pisa, acknowledges that the ground-beneath the tower is unstable because of a fluctuating water table and that the marbles of its graceful loggia are heavily damaged. In a telephone interview he insists, "I'm convinced the tower is not in any more immediate danger of falling than it was before.

Indeed, most experts believe the tower - which now leans some 13 feet off-centre at its top - could resist gravity at least another century. If anything, they say, the latest measurements are proof that the tower's tilt is not getting worse. In June, the tower had only moved 0.2 millimetres (1/125th of an inch) the previous 12 months, well under the 1.1 millimetre average

since monitoring began early this

Tourists

One concern for Mayor Granchi's Pisan constituency is that the tower's closure will dry up tourist revenues. Pisa can count on some 800,000 visitors to the tower each year. This adds up to

prognosis: Without urgent treatment, the tower could topple without warning."

Prandini's cure — the proposal of a team of five engincers - centres on construction of a giant scaffolding that would shroud half the tower. This metal

girdle would provide a platform

Dynamic stability proposed

By David Christian Smith

BOSTON, (CSM): Although his plan was conceived 18 years ago, Yao Tzu Li says it could save Pisa's leaning tower. "It is a well-thought-out proposal, and I stil believe it is

applicable," says Li. Then a professor of aeronautics and astronautics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Mass., in 1972 Li submitted his design to an international competition sponsored by the Commission for the Restoration of the Tower of

The contest prompted entries from three continents, most of which were deemed amateurish and eccentric. Only 14 were judged by a special panel. Five were "worth particular consideration," according to an official statement. Li's entry was one of them. But all proposals were rejected.

Asked why the contest produced no winner, Li says, "It was a totally political issue." He made a trip to Italy after the contest to question the outcome. "The government didn't have the solid means" to implement any plan, he says.

Although uncertain what pushed authorities to close the tower now, Li says, "Sooner or later there is a point of no return," and adds, "it gets harder and harder the longer you don't do any-

The basic assumption behind Li's proposal was that the tower is veering from its centre of gravity because the ground is unstable. He likened the problem to that of stabilizing an aircraft. The wings support the weight, and the elevator and stabilizer in the tail continually balance the plane. His team proposed adding a set of relatively small pads extending from the main tower base to provide "dynamic stabilization."

Told that controlling the water pressure below the tower had slowed its leaning, Li comments: "Slowing only prolongs the problem. It doesn't solve anything."

some \$2 million in tickets alone, a respectable contribution to the maintenance of Pisa's mon-

But Giulio Carlo Argan, a noted art historian, complained in a newspaper article, "It's indecent that monuments have to earn a living to survive." Argan says the weight alone of the throngs is a serious hazard and is relieved the tower will be getting a rest.

Attenuon was fixed on the precarious state of Pisa tower after a mediaeval tower in the northern town of Pavia collapsed last March killing four people.

Pisa's plight is not unusual in a country whose trove of archaeological and artistic treasures is in constant need of repairs. Only this summer in Verons, the balcony that tradition says is the one from which Juliet entreated Romeo started

crumbling.
In its checkup report, the 166-member special commission reporting to Prandini diagnosed the Leaning Tower of Pisa's ail-ments and came up with the

for workers during restoration of the delicate marble of the loggias.

The most significant aspect of Prandini's plan is that it aims to finally solve the problem of the tower's unstable base. The metal scaffolding would secure the structure while its foundations are anchored by giant spokes to a ring of cement.

Virtually ever since the tower's first stone was laid in 1173, based on designs by Bonnano Pisano. the ground has shifted beneath it. When only three tiers were finished, the tilting began and construction was eventually halted.

The tower's base has always been subject to sinking since it is layered underneath with clay and sand, and waterways cross the spot at a depth of some 30 metres (98 feet), says Pierotti.

The campanile was only com-pleted in 1303 after Giovanni di Simone devised an ingenious solution based on the complex balancing of weights that ena-bled him to build a light, graceful structure atop an already faulty foundation.

Should Prandini's plan be executed. Pierotti fears it will destroy Di Simone's architectural aichemy. "The project was drafted by engincers who know nothing about mediaeval architecture," he laments. He is convioced the cure the engineers have proposed — and that was accepted by the ministry last year

— is far worse than the problem. He remembers that three years ago the commission was suggesting the belfry be removed to lighen the tower. The weight of the 14th-century belfry, according to Pierotti, acts as a counterhalance to the tower's ult.

The danger of a hotched restoration looms large in Pisa. After one ill-advised attempt to consolidate the ground in 1936. the tower slipped by as much as

three inches. Furthermore, Pierotti attacks the engineers' assumption that the tower's dry stone masonry can be solidified by injecting the interstices with cement. "These hollow spots serve to both lighten the tower and make it flexi-hle," says Pierotti, insisting that the loose filling in the walls was part of Di Simone's plan and that a good restoration must respect

the use of original materials. The use of cement is therefore anathema to Pierotti. The University of Pisa art historian is also petrified the tower's marbles would crumble in the metal grip of the girdle and that the planned excavation around the base could actually precipitate rather than prevent the tower's fall.

Master plan

For now, it appears the ministry's master plan for the tower has been put on hold, much to Pierotti's relief. Rather than implement the ministry's blueprint, Pierotti would prefer putting it back together again. That way, he says, the tower's secrets would finally be revealed.

Meanwhile, he hopes restorers will immediately begin repairing or replacing the marble columns that he says have been neglected for some 30 years.

The Prandini plan capped a long series of attempts to solve the Leaning Tower of Pisa's predicament. An international competition held in 1972 yielded some 22 plans, none of which was ever accepted.

Through the years the search has yielded some strange solutions for salvaging the tower. The preservation society charged with the tower's upkeep is regularly swamped with mail prescribing remedies from around the world.

A group of American school-children suggested the campanile's rim be hooked to a hovering helicopter. Perhaps the zaniest idea was that of a well-meaning Florentine who proposed to erect a huge statue of Saint Ran-ieri, Pisa's patron saint, that would hold up the tower with the tip of his sword.

Pioneering heart surgery in the womb

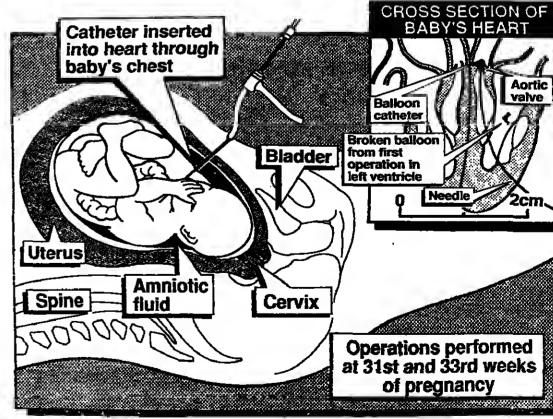
The world's first successful heart operation on a baby still in its mother's womb has been carried out at Guy's Hospital in London. And despite the baby's subsequent death from other complications five weeks after birth, doctors say they continue pioneering the technique

titE world's first successful heart operation on a baby still in it's mother's womh has been carried out at Guy's Hospital in London.

The surgery, which involved opening a valve in the baby's heart with a "balloon catheter' measuring just three millimetres in diameter, was carried out twice during the mother's pregnancy - at 31 weeks and 33 weeks. A third operation within hours of its birth ensured that the valve had been fully opened.

Most babies with this defect die in the womb and few who are born survive for more than 24 hours. Last year, the Guy's Hospital team performed the same operation but the baby died in the wombaday later. In this case. the haby boy was born prematurely on 4 January and survived for five weeks before kidney failure led to his death.

Doctors say that despite the



This drawing shows how surgeons carried out the world's first successful heart operation on a baby still in its mother's womb.

pumping action of the heart

death, the technique was a success and work with it will con-

a peration involves insertsimilar to that used for amniocentesis, through the mother's abdomen and uterus wall directly into the chest and heart of the foetus. The needle enters the heart through the left ventricle and a high resolution ultrasound scan is used to guide the needle into the tiny heart.

A narrow flexible tube is then passed down the needle taking with it the deflated balloon and a piece of platinum guide wire. The takes the wire and balloon directly across the aortic valve. Once it is in place, the cardiologist inflates the balloon to force open the valve and so improve the blood flow and pressure through the heart. The team that pioneered the

technique consisted of Dr. Lindsay Allan, director of Guy's perinatal cardiology unit, Dr Darryl Maxwell, director of the hospital's foetal medicine unit, and Michael Tynan, professor of paediatric cardiology. Dr Alln commented: "It is new, uncharted territory, but we are for the

first time recognising that some babies who once had no hope can be treated before birth." It is hoped that such opera-

tions in the womb will replace heart transplant in the newly born. Foetal surgery also has the advantage that the healing seems to be quicker. In addition, the baby is protected from bacteria in the womb and its nutrition through the placenta is not interrupted.

(Dr Lindsay Allan, director, perinatal cardiology unit, Guy's Hospital, St. Thomas Street, London SEI 9 Ri: telephone 44-

ARAB®TIMES

Thought for today

THE strongest human instinct is to impart information. The second strongest is to resist it — Kenneth Grahame,

Tranquil days over

Chaos rules in Karachi

KARACHI, Pakistan, (AP): Guns, drugs, bloody ethnic clashes and fractious politics have infected the country's biggest city, and some say they threaten democracy in Pakistan.

Political parties fight pitched battles through Karachi's cramped alleyways. The latest clash on Feb 7 left 60 dead and hundreds wounded. Paramilitary forces still patrol the city and a curfew remains

in place in some parts.

Gangs of student extremists have turned the closed universities into armed camps. Kidnappings and torture are commonplace.

Unemployment is rampant. Government officials say they have no

way to count the number of job seekers.

A gramme (0.035 ounce) of heroin costs less than \$2. Eleven years ago the drug was hardly found in Pakistan. Now an estimated 300,000 addicts crowd Karachi'sa slums, one-third of the nation's total.

A Kalashnikov automatic weapon, another recent arrival, rents for \$5 a day. Bands of robbers roam the countryside, and car thieves

operate throughout the city. The police, many people say, are either corrupt or incompetent. Police say they are outgurned and outmanned. Karachi has one of the lowest ratios of police to citizens of any city in South Asia: 458 to 1.

"Karachi, once a city of peace, tranquility and affluence, has turned almost into Beirut." wrote Mahmood Ali Malik, a noted psychologist,

in the Pakistan Times. The army is certainly waiting in the wings," said Ahmed Ali Khan, editor of Dawn, the largest English-language newspaper. "Increased

chaos could threaten our democracy. Eleven years of martial law ended only two years ago after the death of Gen. Zia-ul-Haq in a mysterious plane crash; rumours of sabotage shound, with fingers pointed in every direction, from the superpowers

to the military.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto presides over a shaky government. elected in November, 1988.

With a population of more than 8 million, Karachi is Pakistan's biggest city, its economic centre and its only major port, sprawling on the sun-baked coast of the Arabian Sea.

Any problem that Pakistan has, Karachi appears to have in greater measure, and because of its size and importance, Karachi's problems are national in scope.

Three layers of interwoven troubles weigh on the city and the rest of Sind province, which surrounds Karachi—ethnic strife, social hreakdown and a newer phenomenon called "the berom and Kalashnikov

Guns have been plentiful in Pakistan ever since Soviet troops intervened in Afghanistan in December 1978 and the US-supported

Afghan rebels moved their operations to Pakistan.

Millions of dollars in US aid to the rebels beloed fund a huge arms industry in northern Pakistan. Simultaneously, the manufacture of heroin became an important source of income for Afghan refugees and the tribes in the area.

Weapons accompanied the narcotics south to Karachi, a main conduit for heroin to Western Europe and the United States. Seizures of 2,731 kilos (about 6,000 pounds) of heroin between July and 1986, and 10 times the amounts confiscated in earlier years.

Shootings

Shootings of law enforcement officers are common. A top customs agents was shot six times in the face and leg as he left his home in June last year on a supposedly secret raid. He survived.

Drugs and guns in the city combine with increasing crime in the

surrounding countryside. Disputes that were solved by village head-man are now solved with guns, says historian Hamida Khoura. "We face an institutional breakdown throughtout the province," said Sind's Governor, Fakhruddin Ibrahim. "Chaos is ruling."

The police, he said, can do little to stop it. The police in Pakistan have always been a political tool. Years of martial law taught them that," he said in a recent interview. "I don't see

In addition, ethnic strife has plagued Karachi since Pakistan was formed in 1947 after the partition of India and the end of British

colonial rule. Pathans and Punjabis journeyed south to make a fast rupee in the port city. Sindhis came from the countryside to sell their produce. And immigrants, called Mohajirs, flooded from largely Hindu India to

The elements did not merge in the melting pot, and clashes between rival ethnic groups started in the 1950s.

Ethnic strife took on political overtones in 1985 with the formation of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement, which sought to represent the interests of immigrants from India. The Mohajirs say they are discriminated against by the provincial

government, dominated by Sindhis. They want more jobs and official recognition of their ethnic group. The Mohajir Qaumi Movement, led by Altaf Hussain, has grown

into an important political force, culling support from Mohajir com-munities that dominate Karachi and other cities in Sind. Karachi's local political problems took on a national scope when Flussain united with the national opposition in an attempt to bring

down Renazir's government. The two groups had been linked in a tenuous alliance. But Benazir's

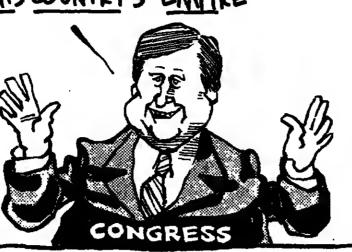
Pakistan People's Party, which is based in Sind, generally ignored Mohajir interests after it won the national election.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1597 Austria's Archduke Albert captures Amiens in France. - British sign peace treaty with Sultan Tipu of Mysore in
- 1795 The Mahrathas defeat the Mogul of Kurdla in India. 1845 - Maoris stage further uprising against British rule in New Zealand. 1913 - Britain and Germany agree on frontier between
- Nigeria and Cameroons. 1917 - British forces capture Baghdad during World War I.
- 1920 Amir Feisal is proclaimed king of an independent
- 1921 France, in treaty with Turkey, renounces claim to Cicilia.
- 1938 German forces enter Austria.
- 1943 British Eighth Army repulses heavy German counterattacks in Tunisia in World War II.
- 1966 Mobs sweep through Calcutta, India, and surrounding towns in second day of food riots, and police kill five of the
- rioters. 1975 Two Portugal Air Force planes attack military barracks in Lisbon in what is called attempt to overthrow left-
- wing military government. 1977 — Brazil cancels 25-year-old military assistance treaty with United States because of US State Department report
- criticising its alleged violations of human rights.

 1987 Sudanese-sponsored peace talks between Chad and Libya break down, and no date is set to resume negotiations. 1989 — Two dozen nations sign declaration in the Netherlands enlisting United Nations as watchdog against pollution of Earth's atmosphere.

GORBACHEV HAS GIVEN UP HIS COUNTRY'S EMPIRE



HE'S GIVEN UP HIS ... AND ALL OF PARTY'S MONOPOLY... THIS IS GOOD.





... PROVIDED I DON'T HAVE TO GIVE UP MY DISTRICT'S BASES!



Prosperity eludes Gorby

Freedom and reform abound

MOSCOW, (AP): Mikhail S. Gorbachev promised the people a better deal and has hrought them far greater freedom during five years in power, but the shortages and discomforts that make daily life a

struggle have grown worse.

"The main thing is to make life better for people,"
he told a Western interviewer a few months after becoming Communist Party chief in March 1985. There is no goal-more important to us."

Five years later, the Soviet Union and its former Eastern European satellies enjoy a stunning degree of democracy.

Gorbachev has eased the fear of war. He has freed political prisoners from jails and psychiatric hospitals. Little remains of communism in the Communist Party's new platform, and the party no longer enjoys unquestioned authority.

In the matters of personal comfort most important to the average citizen, however, Gorbachev bas not delivered.

Food, housing and consumer goods are in even shorter supply than when he took command of the Kremlin. Nearly half the people questioned in a poll published this month said daily existence was harder than in 1985.

"Five years later, the drudgery of renewal continues, and isn't yet close to its objectives," commented the pro-reform Moscow News recently.

Gorbachev's economic programme has been a series of mistakes and half-measures. He has delayed painful hut critically needed steps such as reforming a price structure that has no relation to costs and wastes resources.

Farmers

Only in the last several weeks have legislators approved new laws allowing farmer to lease land, and letting individuals own means of productions such as factories. But even ardent supporters of the

laws say they do not go far enough.

Meat, hutter and other foods are rationed in many places. In Moscow, a city of 9 million people, 1.25 million are on waiting lists for better apart-

Jewels of imperial architecture are crumbling. Repairmen and snowplows seem to have vanished. Gorbachev knows it. In a speech to the Communist Party Central Committee a month ago, the Soviet leader acknowledged "further disruptions of the consumer market, a growth in shortages and queues, and a fall in the purchasing power of the

"We hoped to mount the peak of the crisis in 1989, hut recent events have shown that there has been no change for the better," he said. On March 11, 1985, when Gorbachev followed

the old, ailing leadership that had presided for two decades, there was much that needed fixing. His predecessors left a nation near bankruptcy, its

infrastructure worn out and people dispirited. It had plenty of missiles, but no hot water in two-thirds of the rural hospitals. In the repressive Soviet Union of 1985, however;

few dared openly say anything was wrong.

Gorbachev changed that. Under the banner of glasnost, or openness, he has introduced greater

official honesty and an improved intellectual life.

Last year, he installed the heginnings of democracy with the first competitive elections and first working Parliament in 70 years. In February, he won agreement from the Communist Party leadership for a multiparty system.

Newspapers and television, which once provided

endless paeans to the sacrifices of World War tl soldiers and hero labourers, have been transformed, The Iron Curtain has disintegrated. Once-forbid-

den books have been published, including Alexander Solzhenitsyn's "The Gulag Archipelago."
In 1990, it is expected that 8 million Soviet citizens will visit the outside world, where Gorbachev has had his greatest success and may be more popular than at home.

Reformers ncross Eastern Europe attributed their courage to act, and their success, to the Soviet leader's promise of non-interference and his indications that the time for change had arrived. By setting the satellites free and agreeing with the

border patrols, recognising the diminishing risk of an attack by the Warsaw Pact. On the horizon are treaties on reducing longrange nuclear weapons by 50 per cent and withdraw-

United States to eliminate medium-range missiles.

he helped lessen the danger of war. Nato has reduced

ing hundreds of thousands of US and Soviet soldiers from Central Europe. Even Soviet leaders more conservative than Gor-

bachev regard such achievements with pride. "We have lifted the real threat of nuclear war," said Yegor K. Ligacbev, the leading conservative in the Polithuro, when asked by reporters March 4 to

name the successes of Gorbacbev's five years. "We were on the brink," he said. "One step more. and we could have found ourselves in a nuclear catastrophe."

Regional and ethnic tensions are another matter. Ethnic conflicts have taken 500 lives in two years and nationalism arising from the new political freedom threatens to dismember the Soviet Union. Lithuanians talk of declaring independence this

Activists Kazimieras Uoka told the Lithuanian Review the Soviet Union was so sick that, "by summer, the situation in Russia will be such that our secession will be hardly nouceable."

Gorbachev responded to the threat of anarchy hy seeking strong new presidential powers, including the right to declare war and suspend legislatures in the 15 republics.

After local and regional elections on March 4, he chev's joh lies ahead.

told reporters the new powers were necessary because "stability and order" were breaking down. He said disintegration of the Soviet Union would be a greater upheaval than China's Cultural Revolution of a generation ago.

But progressive parliamentarian Yuri Afanasiev, who is forming a more radical opposition to Gorba-chev, said the Soviet leader's problem is not a

shortage of power, but of trust.
"Nobody listens." Afanasiev said in a television.
interview. He said Gorbacbev talks about the basic problem, of the need to transform a highly centralised empire into a voluntary union of independent nations. But he has yet to act on the promise.

Misgivings are increased by the fact that Gorba-

cbev has promised legal guarantees of human rights, limits on Communist Party power and fully competitive democracy for nearly two years, but has not translated the pledges into law.

Many citizens were shocked by his nationally televised, finger-wagging tirade against progressives who denounced the proposal as dangerously close to dictatorship.

Whatever his powers, the hardest part of Gorba-

Chronology of events

major events that shaped the life and career of Soviet President Mikhail S.

Gorbachev: Mar 2, 1931 — Mikhail Ser-geyevich Gorbachev is born in Privolooye, a rural town in the stavropol region of southern Russia. 1950 — Enrolls at Moscow State University in Moscow to study law. 1952 - Becomes a full member of the Communist Party and becomes active in Komosomol, the party's . youth organisation. 1954 — Marries fellow student Raisa

Maximovna Titorenko. 1955 - Returns to Stavropol and 1955 — Returns to Stavropol and begins full time Komsomol work. 1960 — Appointed first secretary of Stavropol regional Komosomol. 1966 — Promoted to head the party organisation in the city of Stavropol and three years later is elevated to full membership in the National Com-munist Party Central Committee.

197t — Made a deputy of the nation's then-nominal Parliament, the Supreme Soviet.
1978 — Appointed Central Committee secretary in charge of agriculture

and moves to Moscow. 1979 — Named a candidate, or nonvoting member of the ruling Polithuro headed by president Leonid t. Brezhnev. 1980 — Elevated to full membership in Polithuro. Mar 1t, 1985 — Named general

secretary of the Communist Party fallowing the death of Konstantin U. Chernenko. Nov 1985 -- Meets with US president Ronald Reagan for the first ome in Geneva. Over the next five years, the

with Reagan.

programme in earnest, using the cat-chwords 'glasnost', meaning open-ness and self-criticism, and 'peres-

Soviet President holds four summits 1986 — Launches bis reform troika', the Russian word for restruc-turing. Frees dissident Andrei D. Sakbarov from internal exile. 1987 — Travels to Washington to meet with Reagan and signs a treaty to eliminate both sides' mediumrange nuclear weapons.

1988 - Calls the first Communist Party conference since the days of Josef Stalin to press for more radical reform. Io December, presides over the dissolution of the Supreme Soviet, to be replaced by the Con-gress of People's Deputies and a smaller full-time legislature, the new Supreme Soviet

t989 - Withdraws Soviet troops from Afghanistan and presides over Congress of People's Deputies that elects him president.

1990 — Ends Communist Party monopoly on political power and moves to create n stronger

presidency.

The record speaks

MOSCOW, (AP): Here is a look at Mikhail S. Gorbachev's record since coming Soviet leader on Mar 11.

Foreign policy

Declared policy of non-intervention in Eastern Europe, permitting a wave of revolutions that deposed aid-style communist regimes, broke

down the Berlin wall and set the stage for German reunification.

— Dramatically reduced fears of a nuclear war or Soviet attacks on

- Cut the defence budget and declared a unilateral reduction in forces of 500,000 troops and 10,000 - Informally agreed with the Linited

- Agreed with the United States to destroy medium-range missiles and try for a second treaty in 1990 cutting

long-rang nuclear weapons by 50 per Brought home the 115,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

— Switched foreign policy from struggle with capitalist countries in cooperation in fulfilling "universal human values," such as the desire for

peace and a better life — Stimulated negotiations to settle conflicts in Angola, Namibia. Camhodia. Nicaragua.

- Introduced competitive elections in 1989, won agreement from the Communist Party leadership to end its constitutional monopoly on

- Proposed broad new presidential

powers, including the right to susp-end republic Parliaments. Promised legal guarantees of a freer press, freedom of assembly, freedom of religion and the right to a fair trial.

Freed hundreds of political prisoners and ended persecution for political views. — Virtually opened the borders, but has not produced promised law on free exit and entry.

Economic policy Failed to improve the daily life of ordinary Soviets, as shortages have worsened and inflation and rationing have increased delayed needed

reform of Soviet prices, which have no relation to costs and waste scarce - Won Communist Party leaders' acceptance of private ownership of

- Won parliamentary approval of leasing lood to individuals, with the right of inheritance, but refused to legalise private ownership of land. - Eased foreign investment through

joint ventures.

— Legalised small private business cooperatives, but did not guarantee adequate, legal sources of supplies.

Revealed the long-secret Soviet hudget deficit, which this year reached 90 billion roubles (\$150 billion

at the official rate of exchange). Domestic policy

Permitted independence move-ments to develop in the Baltics and the Crucasus.

Sent tens of thousands of Soviet troops on peacekeeping duties in the republics but could not halt ethnic and nationalist conflicts that killed

over 500 people in the past two years. - Failed to halt official corruption and the soaring rate of violent crime.

adopted the cause of environmentalists, but succeeded in doing little so far to improve polinted air, water and

Promised dramatic increase in housing but has achieved no visible

-- Slashed nleghol production to reduce alcoholism at a cost to the reasury of billions of roubles, much of which went to black marketeers. Campaign did succeed in altering public attitude toward drunkenness from amused acceptance to condeminate to the succeed in altering public attitude toward drunkenness from amused acceptance to condeminate to the succeeding the succeeding to the succeeding the succeeding to the suc

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Letters to the editor

ISP students' plight

SIR: I would like to draw promet attention of the management of International School of Pakistan towards a serious and sensitive issue

t. It is very stunning as well as shocking that the regular students of the Pakistan toternational School. regular students of the Pakistan total manual regular students in the secondary have appeared as external students, in the secondary school annual examination conducted by the Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Islamabad as the management, despite striving hard, has badly failed to get the affiliation of Islamabad.

board.

The matriculation certificate is the only testimonial which shows date of birth of a student and ispresented everywhere for further higher studies.

Inst visualise the plight of a successful student who will be conferred on a certificate without showing the name of the school he ratended for 10 years.

2. The school management has already advertised advertised admission notice for the new academic year without admission notice to the text.

Clearly statiog up to which class.

It means there is something wrong in the bottom and the management has read the writing oo the wall.

It looks they could not get Islamahad board's affilia-

It looks they could not get Islamabad board's affilianon for the forthcoming examination. Is it so? We
request the management to clarify and not keep the
parents and students in dark, and we mean it.

3. In short, we would like to suggest the schoolmanagement to operate the school up to 8th class
only as it is beyond their approach to get the school
affiliated with the Federal Board of Intermediate and

Secondary Education, Islamabad.

The management is requested to sacrifice financial gains for the future of the "children of today who will be the citizens of tomorrow.

Mrs Shahida Siddiqui, Kuwait.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or

Alert for an unwanted war

BARAMULLA, India, (AP): An estimated 240,000 Indian soldiers backed by armour and air cover are stationed in Kashmir, ready tobattle Pakistan in the event of a war both sides say they are trying to avoid, A provocation or a miscalculation sparked

hy the Muslim insurgency in the Indian-ruled part of Kashmir risks turning the disputed mountains and valleys into a war zone for the third time since 1947: Kashmir is claimed by both India and Pakis-

tan, nneasy neighbours whose independence from Britain has been marred by violence for four decades because their Hindu and Muslim populations haven't been able to live in peace. Clashes

On the Indian side of the 41-year-old ceasefire line, more than 170 people have died in the past seven weeks in clashes between Kasb-miri Muslim secessionists and the predominantly Hindu Indian arms and paramilitary

"Militarily speaking, it is a near-war scenario. Both sides are ready," a retired Indian infantry officer said in Srinagar, speaking on. condition of anonymity. "But the irony of the situation is that both sides, on political platforms, claim day after day that they do not want

In Baramulla, a major Indian army base and the last town before the India-Pakistan ceasefire line, the scene resembles one out of a World War II movie:

Long convoys of army trucks and artillery draped with tarpaulins head to the frontier. Soldiers in battle fatigues practice ground advance tactics. Live rifle rounds are fired at

Baramulla is 40 kilometres (24 miles) from the frontier - and the Pakistani Army. . "The military activity you see here is more or

less normal," said Chewang Phunsog, chief civilian administrator of the two strategic border districts of Baramulla and Kupwara. War

"I do not know if a war is in the cards, but if we are drawn into it, the other side will not find us lacking," he said. A Pakistani Defence Ministry spokesman in Islamabad said there has been a build-up of Indian troops along the frontier. "We think it is.

primarily for internal security, but it can always be used (against Pakistan) once it's there," he said. Under standing hricfing regulations, the spokesman cannot be identified. Indian military sources said the number of troops deployed in Jammu-Kashmir, the only

Indian state with a Muslim majority, bas swelled from 150,000 a few months ago to: about 240,000. Since the Indian crackdown on the Kashmiri separatists began Jan 20, at least three border

incidents have taken place. The most serious occurred Feb. 5, when about 4,000 Pakistani civilians attempted to cross the border to support their Muslim brethern in Indian-governed Kashmir. Indian troops opened fire, killing as many as 10 Pakistani

civilians, according to Indian newspapers.

The first India-Pakistan war was in 1948. It officially ended with the declaration of a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire in January 1949. Since then, Kashmir has been divided bet-ween mostly Hindu India and predominantly Muslim Pakistan.

Gains The second war over Kashmir, in 1965, lasted 16 days and ended with no real gains for

The countries went to war a third time in 1971, hnt not over Kashmir. India entered war between east Pakistan and west Pakistan and helped transform east Pakistan into the independent nation of Bangladesh.

Both India and Pakistan have continued

their military build-ups since then. On paper, India has a massive advantage. There are 1.36 million men in the Indian Armed Forces with another 240,000 in reserve. Pakistan has 500,000 men under arms.

India has 3,150 battle tanks to Pakistan's 1,600. India also outnumbers its neighbour in the air, with 714 combat aircraft including

Soviet MiG-29s to Pakistan's 338 combat. planes, which include US F-16s. The United Nations' 35-member military. observer group continues the task it has been

doing for the last four decades. "Our job is to report any abnormal increase in military activities on the border to our headquarters in New York." said Capt. Idesbald van Biesebroeck of Belgium.

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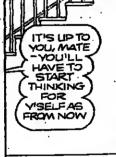






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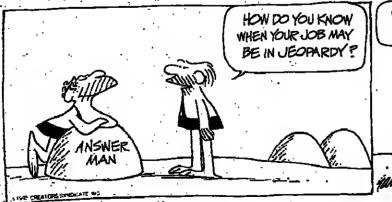








B.C. By Johnny Heit





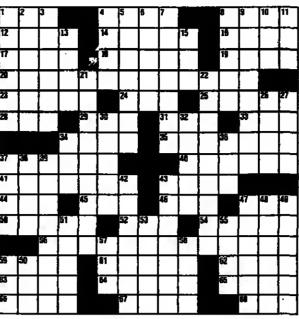
HE-MAN - By G # Onon & J. Shull







Today's crossword



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64 - Doctrine:

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K**EÖREN BRIDGE**

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

Both vuloerable. South deals. NORTH **★** J 8 5 EAST WEST ♠ A K ♥ 9 ♥ J 10 8 3 ♦ J763 SOUTH **★** 10 6 ♥ K Q 6 5 2

♣ A Q J The bidding: North East South West 10 1 🛊 2 🜣 Pass Pass Pass Pass

0 10 9 4

Opening lead: King of •

The average player looks no further than his aces and kings. The expert takes coosiderable pains over his spotcards as well. We would bet that 99 percent of declarers would fail in their heart game because of not realizing how important a card dummy's eight of diamoods is.

The auction was routine. Giveo normal breaks the cootract would have presented no difficulty. As it to take advantage of the high diawas it required superb technique by South to succeed.

WATCH THOSE SPOTS rounds of spades, declarer ruffing the last. South carefully led the ten of diamonds to the queen, then returned to hand with the queen of trumps to lead the nine of diamonds, going up with the king. Since be had a sure trump trick West refused to ruff, but declarer's careful preparatory work now peid off handsomely.

After coming to hand with the king of trumps, declarer led a diamond and took the marked finesse of the eight. East had no recourse. If the defender refused to ruff declarer would simply continue diamonds until East did, and the ace of hearts would still he in dummy as an entry to any uncashed diamonds.

So East did as well as possible by ruffing and shifting to e club. Declarer was not tempted. After shooting up with the ace. South crossed to the ece of hearts and cashed the good diamoods, discarding two clubs from hand.

Note that had South not unblocked both the ten and nine of diamonds East could defeat the contrect by refusing to ruff the third round of the suit. Declarer would be in hand and would be an entry short moods. Alternatively, East could ruff the second round of diemonds The defenders started with three and the suit would be blocked.



YOUR STARS



If you do not beware you are likely to make yourself ridiculous. Check your facts or you will make a grave mistake. Do not allow your emotions to rule hut do not repress them either. Be considerate.



Avoid doing your own repairs unless you really know what you are about. Everything looks a little bleak but the outlook is fair. Do not be late if you have been invited. Be



You are likely to feel at your best and should try to take it easy for a while. Your lucky numbers are 12 and 35. Make sure you get enough exercise but nothing too exhausting. Do not pretend to be what you know you are not. Be accurate.



Try to take your mind off work for the day. Seek to make the most of what you have instead of always bemoaning what you had not got. Take a little more regular but none too violent exercise. Be punctual.



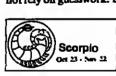
Make sure you do not keep others waiting. You will not realise until after what a lucky escape you have had. Make sure do not eat or drink more than you know you should and vary your diet. Be



You will not feel very energeric but you must not become lethargic.
Something you had hoped would will come to pass. However something you also hoped would happen will not. Be responsive.



You will be proved right but you should not say 'I told you so': you could as easily have been wrong. You will be able to do something to please your partner and should do so. Avoid acting on impulse aod do not rely on guesswork. Be sincere.

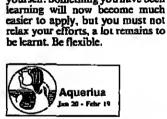




A temptation to do the first things that comes to mind must be firmly resisted. Limits whether of speeds or of propriety should be adhered to. If you have made a promise be sure to keep it. Be tolerant



You should make sure you do not take any undue risks with your health. However nor should you think that everything you do is bad for your health. Avoid all kinds of exaggeration and do not go to extremes. Be generous.



You will be able to avail yourself of a good opportunity only if you are decisive and fast. Avoid strain-ing your eyes but also try not to become too dependant on glasses. Do not take any risks when on the road, walking or driving. Be ver-

Cepricom

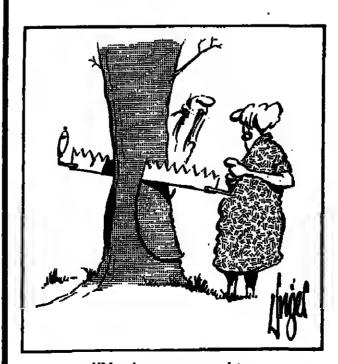
Dec 21 - Jan 19

You are all too liable to act on

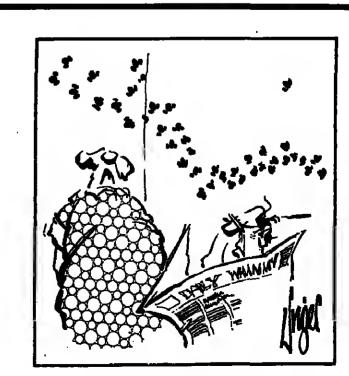
impulse and should try to restrain yourself. Something you have been



Something you had hoped would will happen but it will prove to be a little disappointing. Never mind, it might have been a lot worse. Avoid telling others precisely what you think of them. Be more patient.



"You're supposed to be holding it straight!"



"The *dog* ate a whole bag of chili powder."

PAL now serving Iloilo, Bacolod: Philippine Airlines introduced Boeing 737-300 service to Iloilo and Bacolod, bringing to eight the domestic points where the brand new aircraft replaces the ageing BAC One Eleven jets.

The B737s will operate Manila Iloilo four times daily and Manila-Bacolod also four times daily. In ceremonies at lloilo's Mandurriao Airport, PAL executive vice-

president Leslie Espino will present B737 models to Mayor Rodolfo Guanzon and Gov. Simplicio Grino.

In Bacolod, PAL president Dante G. Santos will present aircraft models to Mayor Alfredo Montelibano and Gov. Daniel Lacson Jr. Invited to the Iloilo inaugural flight are Reps Rafael Lopez Vito, Oscar Garin, Albertito Lopez, Narciso Monfort and Neil Tupas. Expected to join the Bacolod inaugural flight are Transportation

Secretary Oscar Orbos, Reps. Romeo Guanzon, Manuel Puey, Jose Carlos Lacson, Edward Matti, Mariano Yulo and Hortencia Starke.

Widow arrested for selling dope: A widow of an alleged pusher was arrested for selling marijuana to a policeman in Sampaloc,

Marilou de guzman, 30, of 560 Gov. Forbes St, Sampaloc, was held by Cpl Robert Ruiz right after she handed marijuana worht P250 to

Police led by Capt. Cresencio Cabasal found a kilo of marijuana and

the marked P250 in the widow's belongings.

Casabal said De Guzman was about to deliver the marijuana to Ermita when Ruiz spotted her at the corner of M dela Fuente St and

Cabasal said Ruiz posed as an addict and convinced the woman to sell a few grammes of marijuana to him.

De Guzman told police she was forced to sell marijuana to feed her children. "Wala na akong ibang alam na paraan para buhayin ang mga anak ko kaya ko ito nagawa," she said.

Fake BIR man nabbed: A man posing as a Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) agent was arrested by Manila policemen in a snack bouse in Sampolac recently.

Juanito Natividad, 63, of 8 Geronimo St, Novaliches, Quezon City was about to leave the Cindy's Fastfood and Hamburger House when police accosted him. Recovered from Natividad were a fake BIR identification card in the name of Lauro Mariano, a BIR mission order signed by a certain Jose Medina, tax fraud division chief, and a .38

Lieut Generoso Javier said Natividad admitted he was a fake BIR

'Impartial treatment for schools': Education Secretary Isidro Carino ordered all top education officials to grant "impartial

treatment" to all private colleges and universities.

In a still unnumbered DECS memorandum, Carino directed the officials to assist and accommodate the requests of all private colleges and universities.

The memorandum was addressed to undersecretaries, assistant secretaries, hureau directors, school superintendents, vocational technical heads and school superintendents and administrators.

Workers can file tax returns in embassies: The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Commissioner Jose Ong Jr allowed vacationing contract workers to file their income tax returns in any of the agencies in regional offices nation-wide.

Contract workers can only file income tax returns in Philippine embassies or consulates abroad or in the central office in Quezon City. Ong instructed regional directors to use the bank rate in converting foreign currency to peso.

Tax fraud exposed: Six thousand flea market vendors in Baclaran have defrauded the government of some P50 million in taxes last year, a Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) source told People's

The market stalls are allegedly in the names of the members of three market syndicates who have leased them to different vendors.

The syndicates also collected sales taxes from the vendors but the money was not remitted to the BIR, the source said.

The BIR cannot run after the vendors because the stalls are not in

Missing with P1.074m: A club owner in Makati was reported to the police to be missing since Jan 29, 1990 with P74,000 and a check for Pl million.

Rogelio A. Garcia, 36, owner of Pic Club at about 11 pm of Jan 29, together with Hisao Tanigawa, a Japanese and former part owner of the establishment. Garcia has not been seen since.

Garcia's wife Rosario, 35, told Makati police that she had talked to Tanigawa after Jan 29 but the Jepanese told her be did not know where

Rattan boat caught: Batangas City — A motorised vessel loaded with about 100 kilos of split rattan, believed to be from Occidental Mindoro, was apprehended by Philippine Coast Guard

men in the coastal barangay of Sambal in Lemery, Batangas.

Coast Guard chief Commo. Pio H. Garrido, in his roport to Navy chief Rear Admiral Carlito Y. Cunanan, said that Antonio Arile Jr of Abra de Ilog. Occidental Mindoro, owner of M/V Marjenesa, was unable to present necessary documents to transport rattan when asked by a coast guard patrol team.

The cutting, transporting or importation of rattan, an endangered specie of pliant and weatherbeaten wood used in furniture making and grown only in Southeast Asia and some tropical countries, has been

Women abused in city jail: Cebu City, PNA — Ceby military and police authorities said they are looking into reported

sexual abuse of female inmates at the Cebu City jail.

The scandal was exposed by The Freeman, a Cebu-based daily which reported that some female inmates were asked by some guards to sleep This was denied by jail superintendent Capt. Benjamin Miaga.

A television station ran a footage of a 20-year-old inmate who alleged she was forced to have sex with some male inmates several times since December 1989.

She did not say if jail guards were also involved. A leader of the inmates allegedly acted as pimp and collected P10 from the man every

time she was used, she said. She was taken to a bospital for chills and fever and was found positive for gonorrhea, hospital physicians said.

City police chief Major Benjamin Gador said he bas ordered an

Judge, court clerk accused of graft: A trial court judge and a clerk of court were criminally charged before the Sandiganbayan for allegedly demanding P10.000 from a person who has a pending ejectment case before his sala in exchange for a favourable decision. Charged with violation of the Anti-graft and Corrupt Practices Act were Binan, Laguna Municipal Trial Court Judge Arturo Juliano and

Renato Vera Cruz. Special prosecution officer Luz Quinones-Marcos charged that Juliano delayed the promulgation of the court decision on the motion

filed by the plaintiff who wanted to withdraw back rentals in the amount of P10,000 deposited by the defendant without sufficient justification hut to obtain pecuniary advantage for themselves.

Prosecutor Marcos said that on Feb 5, 1985, Julian o rendered a decision on the ejectment case in favour of the plaintiff but without any

pronouncement as to the payment of back rentals.

Despite the petition of plaintiff to include the payment of back rentals, Juliano did not include it and only changed his decision after the plaintiff agreed to give P10,000.

Missile kills boy: A boy in Tayabas, Quezon was killed after a grenade launcher missile he and two others were toying with exploded. Killed by shrapnel wounds was Dante Gonzales, 12, of Bgy Malana.
His playmates Profirio Cantos and Reynaldo Amora were in serious condition when taken to Quezon Memorial Hospital in Lucena City. Gonzales' father Eufromo said the boys found the missile while

They were lossing and catching the missile when it fell to the ground and exploded.

Investigators theorised that rebel soldiers might have left the missile behind during the last December's aborted coup.

Resolution number 40 on early elections

PROPOSED Senate Resolution No. 40 and its treatment showed up the uninformed and unenlightening commentary one finds in the media. The measure calls for earlier national elections (now set for May 11, 1992). Sen.Ernie Maceda had origin-ally filed it as sole author. Butz

Aquino, Boy Herrera and l agreed to co-author it, when later asked. Before I agreed, however, I told Manong Ernie that I would bat for a January, 1992 election with th term of the winners to commence on February 25, 1992. That should get it past the military bass agreement issue which would be resolved definitively in 1991.

Where is the "snap" in an election two years away?

with the four-month bonus of President Cory and Vice-President Doy. They were legitimately elected only to a term of six years, to end on February 25, 1992. The free ride of up to June 30, 1992 was given of up to June 30, 1992 was given in 1987, when the Constitution was ratified and the bonus came on piggyback.
Why was their term extended?

Precisely, because, it was thought that on May 11, 1992 1) we could save by having a single.
simultaneous and synchronised
election, from the President
down to the municipal officials;
and 2) we would reduce political activity.

That is why the thrust of the resolution was to de-synchronise, de-clog and de-congest the 1992 elections. But Nietzsche bas said that forgeting purposes is the most common form of

I submit that if we are faithful to the Constitution, we cannot break up the May 11, 1992, elec-tion without amending the basic law. Otherwise, the extension of the term of the President and the Vice president would be sense-

Of course, the Supreme Court may choose to disregard the clear intent of the Constitutional Commission — as may be seen in the Con-Com debates - and the sovereign people; it error would then become the law of the land. It's been known to happen. Social engineering, judicial

statesmanship, etc., see?
As early as January 1988, 1 identified the jammed 1992 elections problem and filed my Concurrent Resolution No. 10 to look into the matter.

Why not lengthen the terms of th local officials? Again, the Constitution does not seem to allow

Even an early election for municipal officials would create the spectre of lameducks serving for too long before their con-situtional term ends on June 30, 1992. And we would bave a long "holiday" of politics, politics, politics. And why punish those who were elected the last, only in

Why not shorten then the terms of the President and the Vice President? We are not stricily speaking, going to do that. We will just honour the original understanding of six years, no

more, no less.

And Congress, which is looking into the dilemma, would look more credible if its members would shorten their terms and sacrifice. (personally, any reasonable and peaceful Early Retirement Programme for me I can accept and live with).

Our motives as co-authors of Resolution No. 40 were questioned, which was the "most unkind act of all." Even those who have been taking of the need to amend the Constitution suddenly said that it would be "tinkering," as if doing something the very same Constitution allows is wrong. (It does not allow any amendment by the people themselves through a popular initiative for five years from 1987; therefore, the mode of constituent assembly or a con-

stitutional convention is allowed so as to improve upon an imper-

fect work put together very quickly in 1986.) And yet, I have since modified my views. Maybe it is not true that the three-feet long ballot which would require 20 minutes for the average voter to fill up would present overwhelming problems. Maybe less than ten. hours for voting would be needed after all. Maybe canvassing would not take two days.

But, here, I may celebrate cyni-In the 1992 election for Senators, you see, the top 12 will serve for six years and the bottom 12, three. I predict that even teammates will be like so many

scorpions in a bottle. Their sig-porters won't vote for other Therefore, 48 to 51 names nee not be written down; these con be cut by half. I don't know though if the canvass will still tong (quite possibly, as peop will have varied choices, eve

when junking bets). The bottom line is that I can not see how one can separate th 1992 elections, without viola ing, thwarting and subverting the 1987 Constitution, which aims to have a single, simultaneou and synchronised election, to co

down on expenses and politics.
What the sovereign people and the lofty Constitution property. together, let no mere man ar ordinary statute put asunder.

Can this be Shell?

SHELL fans can't believe their eyes. Is it really the PBA's former whipping boys, its bridesmaids, its also-rans that are now zoom-

ing their way to kingdom come?

If only their friends could see them now. Formula Shell has broken out of its Shell — in a manner of speaking. Where did it get all that glitz, all that smoothness, all that airtight defense? It could be Bobby Parks. He's

the most obvious variable that's been injected into the Shell brew. 11 could be Bobby's way of whipping up this team of former teammates and eager rookies. Could be the discipline and the new skills he's taught his men.

Bobby's dead serious about this coaching job. It's said he sent Shell no less than 50 different plays by mail when he was first informed be would coach the team. And the way Shell players are moving these days, it is clear that Bobby has upped and taught them some snazzy new tricks. Look what's happened to the Shell team!

Take note of them on the offensive. They're passing well, running well and spotting the open man with deadly accuracy. Suddenly there's communication. Everyone knows what everybody's doing. Players can anticipate what their teammates will do, where they're going to

See. Benjie Paras and Bobby Parks are sharing the load equally and opening up other guys for great opportunities. Arnie Tuadles snipes intermittently from the perimeter or three-point country. Whoever's free goes for the goal or passes to someone with a better advantage. Basic basketball, yes. But deadly as well.

Look, Calvin Tuadles has ripened into a hell of a guard. Whoever is Calvin's prey has to bleed for bis goals and his positive moves. Allan Caidic had an unbelievably low yield when he was designated Calvin Tuadles's man. Carlito Mejos was likewise defanged.

Leo Austria is back in action too and doing what he does best: running. Ably directing play whenever Runnie Magsanoc takes off his five-star pin, Leo-Austria is showing us why his benching last year was one of the cardinal sins of Philippine basketball. Now we have a recharged. revitalised Leo Austria.

And the rookies. Who would

that well? They have effectively. hlended into the team. Jojo Martin, Richard Bognot and Aris Franco truly look like they

Maybe it's the seminar the Shell players underwent last January. Remember that project that stranded them up in Baguio during the December-Coup? Formula Shell management followed up on the unfinished business and completed the project at the Manila Peninsula a month after. One of the goals of that seminar was for Shell players to

develop to their fullet potentials - physically, mentally, emotionally, It was a mind, body

and spirit workout. It seems to complement the physical training so well. Or perhaps Shell really did its homework-physically speaking. It was the first team out of the

Third Conference race last year. It had ample time to prepare for the new decade. Remember the saying that goes: "When God closes a door, he opens a window? God opened a window for Shell by giving them the chance to practice early. While the other teams were just winding up their respective finals bids, Shell was already up and practicing for the next season. Even before the coup, Shell was deep into M.W.F practice sessions at the Ultra. Call that a good head start.

· So now the results are in. You can see it in the perfect running game, the air-tight defense, the help-defense. "If Shell plays this way forever, they can easily beat Purefoods and San Miguel," said one avid PBA aficionado. This observation is shared by many. So far Shell has been the msot

consistent team in the PBA. It thrashed its first two opponents handily, and authoritatively. Shell took the perk out of presto in their first game and melted the Tivolis right there on the hardcourt. They took the fizzle out of Pepsi too as the Zoom Masters completely dominated the play from whistle time to huzzer

Furthermore everybody from top man agreement down to ball boy — seems to be in the go-go thrust. Assistant coach Arlene Rodriguez is actively coa-ching. He too has come out of his shell. Shell chairman and PBA

president. Rey Marquez, is cautious and a bit apprehensive

thought. They might be pealing too early, he said. We st have a long way to go."

ave a long way to go.

But Shelf team manag Charlie Favis is confident. "The still have a lot to show," he say "You should see them at pra

Will Shell continue to zoo away and bag the big prize th time! Bobby Parks, for one, su hopes so. There is a reason for a this impressive transformation Everybody in the team is unde going a learning process. It is no just Arlene Rodriguez and othe assistant. coach bereule Callanta, who are understudie of Bobby parks. Everybody

the team is undergoing school ing-call it "technology transfer. There is more to Sbell's gli than meets the eye. It didn't ju happen overnight. It is the resu of hard work, constant practic and doing one's homework. was borne out of the team strong desire to get its piece of sk after suffering repeated, regula

setbacks in its quest for glory:

Now it seems to bave form The Formula. So who's to blam Shell for running to Bobby Park for belp after its history of faile expeditions? The man is bot capable and unselfish (he is shar ing what he knows with our loca guys - a more efficient way to attend coaching school), and what counts is he's delivering the results.

For sure Shell and Bobb Parks will continue to reap to gripes and attacks of the BCA and people of similar thinking But that they don't mind so long as Shell keeps on winning It's performance that counts ultimately. And so far, so great The Zoom Masters have finally seemed to find their bearings Everything's in high gear.

AND OH YES! A lot of Shell fans are missing the presence of gritly guard-forward, Jay Ramirez, on the court, Jay, who is known for his hard but spirited enforcing style; has been relegated to reserve status for the First Conference. Many Shell fans find this a pity. Jay has been one of the spark plugs and fold dependables" of the Shell team, But Shell's emphasis now a ceiling-hence the present line up.

ceiling hence the present line up. Don't worry though. Maybe Jay "Sanwitsis" Ramirez will be back for the All Filipino - with a vengeance.

Peso stands firm against US dollar on CB manoeuvre

THE peso stands firm to the US dollar, thanks to the support of the Central Bank.
On a turnover of \$500,000, involving only the CB

as seller and Interbank as buyer, the peso closed the day's trading at P22,70 to \$1 at the foreign exchange centre of the Bankers Association of the Philippines

Foreign exchange traders however said the peso could show some signs of a renewed weakening next week should the present political situation continue to deteriorate.

Although the market has discounted the negative impact on the local currency of the detention of Sen.

and other affegue crunes, finders said success political events" stemming from this factor cost exert undue pressures on the peso.

The peso had touched a low of P22.79 to the 3.5

dollar only to bounce back to its current exchange rate. The traders said this recovery which the attributed mainly to the support being provided by the CB. "could prove temporary."

It was observed that the CB recently acquired a "psychological" advantage in its defense of the pess with the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the signing of the \$700-million commercial is an included the significant commercial is an included th

agreement with a syndicate of foreign banks, bat the CB will have to contend with the inherest

Though Apa currently enjoys some privacy in a relatively quiet writing job. he imends to stay in the hlushes.

"Apa is the typical boy-next-door — a more guy: sne | Juan Ponce Enrile, who is taking controlled by the state of t weakness of the currency caused by such basic fundamentals as the deteriorating trade belance.



Ongpin and Velasquez

APA Ongoin hurriedly entered the studio with sincere apologies. "I'm sorry I'm late, it was traffic," he said. He was dressed in simple slacks, a short-sleeved shirt, and a

was dressed in simple stacks, a short-steeved snirt, and a PRESS ID flashing upfront.

Just recently, he left his newscasting stint for the more challenging assistant editor position in a leading newspaper. "I really started out as a newspaper writer. Even in college, I was already writing for different newspapers. So this is nothing new to me. I also try to keep my presence in broadcast by coming out in Cave Bravo."

Apa felt that his potentials as a newscaster has reached

its limit, and so, "under certain circumstances I decided to move on to something that could make me develop fur-

"I'm really a writer, and so I'm enjoying my work oow. I even take my own pictures and I can do layouts for an entire newspaper."

Twenty-five year old Apa Ongpio graduated with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from the Atenco. He took a lot of film and broadcast subjects, his real interest

being film-making. He dreams of becooung a film director "Being a director was the first thing in my mind when I started out in media. Even before I graduated, I was working with Marilou Diaz-Abaya in "Sic o' Clock news" as a production trainees. I also joined Che Che Lazaro in Probe, when it was still at Channel 2. When it transferred to

Channel 7, I decided to stick it out at ABS-CBN." Not too long ago, Apa had an interesting offer to join Richard Gomez and Joey Marquez in the to-rated sitcorn Palibhaso Lalake. Apa agreed to do the show hut after taping a number of episodes, he received another offer to join the ABS-CBN news team. "Work became too hectic for me and I had to make a choice. I could not go on writing news and taping a sitcom at the same time. I decided to stick out with the news because it is closer to what I really

wanted. I never really considered a showbusiness career at

that time. that time.

It is a newscaster. "I joined news not for the exposure, thinking that newscasters were never really that popular. What I wanted was to get experience in covering political and economic issues. And newscasting, I think, gave me a newscasting, I think, gave me a measurement of the considers in and economic issues. And newscasting, I think, governed a pretty good background. "At the same time, he considers it a form of recognition, to he known as a newscaster. He considers it a form of recognition, to he known as a newscaster. He considers it an acting job, which requires

projection to deliver information well. Now that he has more confidence in his abilities, Apa Now that he has note combence in his abilities. Apa doesn't really mind joining the entertainment mind joining the entertainment business. "Some friends bave told me that it would be better if I reserved a little anonymity for my own benefit. Well I'm still young and I think I have nothing to hide. Sure people recognize me, but they don't chase me around or moh me as if I were Richard Gomez or Gabby

Last year Apa had his own share of controversy when news broke out that he was romantically involved with actress Carmi Martin.

'I don't even know if I handled it properly. Everybody is subjected to that kind of issue. In retrospect I cannot really say that I did a good job. For instance I felt that there was a need to be candid without exactly volunteering information. There wasn't a need to bold a press conference. She's a very private person and it's a personal relationship. But I was always asked about it and I didn't want to lie. The problem was that I never really avoided it that much."

entertainment husiness, and looks forward to some broadcasting stints every now and then.

To polish his acting ability, he tries to attend workshops and hrushes up on his Tagalog. The results should be evident in *The Other Woman* which he is doing for Regal Films opposite Alice Dixsun and Lani Mercado. Of pictorial partner Regine Velasquez, Apa gushes, "I admire her very much. I think that she's tremendous talent.

She's got a great advantage because she is starting out with better material. When I was still going to school, we didn't listen to OPM talents, I guess because the material wasn't as good. OPM music has really improved through the years. Regine is really a talcot to look out for. She's so young and can really accomplish so much."

She sports a trendy boyish hair style. Sans makeup she

could pass for a 15-year-old, a far cry from the sophis-ticated belter who doesn't fail to capulate the audience

with her enormous lung power.

She spent most of her growing years joining amateur singing contests so that her family got used in her hringing home the bacon in their humble house in Balagtas. "I've bad it with singing cootests! I feel like I've spent

almost half of my life competing." Regine declares. Which was the reason why it took some encouragement hefore she finally agreed to represent the Philippioes in the recently-concluded "Asia Pacific Singing Contest."

The contest gave Regine a chance to see Hong Kong amidst the hustling boilday season. On her first trip

amust the husthing boliday season. On her first trip abroad, she was accompanied by her father, Gerry Velasquez, personal manager Joyce Villanueva and the sponsor of the trip, Antonio Barreiro of GMA-7.

Regine was back in Manila with the Grand Prize oo December 24, "just in time for Christmas," after which she presented her trophy to President Cory Aquino io Malacanang.

Regine recently completed her second large relations. Regine recently completed her second long playing album, 1990, under Vieor Recording Company. A magazine type album conceptualised by Regine herself, it

w available in the market. is now available in the market.

Regine is also the sweet voice behind the Jo Mari Chan his song "Please Be Careful With My Heart," a cut from Constant Change, Jo Mari's first album after six years. The record just turned triple plathum, which means that it has sold more than 120,000 copies. Its producer, Wea Records Bella Tan says it is on its way to quadruple plathum (160,000 in sales).

What is it like working with an ace musician like Jo Marie.

"li's F-U-N. In spite of bis success, be has remained humble. Parang hindi siyo si jo Mari, Kung umarte, he is such a simple man." such a simple man.
"We're big fans of Jo Mari Chan, my mother and 1.
Favourite ialaga namin siya, especially his "Tell Me Your

Name."
Another favourite of Regine is Gary Valenciano. She admires him so much that she didn't mind doing back-up vocals for the song "Each Passing Night." from Gary V's latest LP Faces of Love. "Leven told them that there was no need to include my name in the album."

Like most, 19-year olds, Regine has her own share of persistent gentlemen callers. "It's my father who enter-

tains them when they visit. Nahihiya kasi ako eh..." She does have herown secret crushes. a handful of lucky young meo whom she considers "cute." From several sources, we gathered that Regine likes Jerry Cardinera, David Celdran and Apa Ongpin — not necessarily in that order.
In fact Regine has a picture with Apa in her new LP.
"Apa is the typical boy-next-door — a nice guy!" she

ns. The story of Yana Mejia

Can souls of the dead return to Earth?

By Chic Fortich

CAN the soul of a dead child return to give consolation and joy to its bereaved parents? The answer, in the words of Yana Mejia, is a breezy "No sweat -

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Yana Mejia was a bright and happy 13-year-old. She was a student at St Scholastica's College, who enjoyed regaling ber parents, Oscar and Boots Mejia, with her musical talents.

One weekend, Oscar and Boots, Yana, her brothers, and cousins were on their way to SM City when a reckless-driver crashed his Pasvil bus into their car.

Yana died in the hospital. Boots suffered a broken hip. The other children and Oscar got away with minor injuries.

The road back to recovery, for Boots, was fraught with pain and frustration. On top of her anguish at the loss of her child, there was the fruitless attempt to bring the errant driver and the bus company to justice.

But as soon as Boots could get into a wheelchair, she bagan reporting for work at the Philippine Daily Inquirer, where she is vice-president for administration. Work, after all, is one of the best therapies for a personal

When I first met her, she was already out of the chair and could walk with crutches - but no crutch could prop up her broken heart as she told me her story, hoping I could write about it and perhaps call the attention of the powers — that be so that the unscrupulous operators of the bns company would be: brought to court.

Somebow I never got to write that story, and there were times when I felt a bit guilty as I came across my copy of Boots' complaint filed with the fiscal. Yet the story refused to gel.

Now I know why. The story wanted to have a happy ending. Change "happy" to "ecstatic," because that's the way Boots feels now.

Boots soon made the shift from crutches to cane, then to limping along by herself.

Then she got pregnant. Her doctor was furious. He had specifically warned her against that eventuality because her hip was still healing and might not be able to carry the burden of a child and she might wind up in a wheelchair again.

But, except for the occasional pain after a tiring day, Boots didn't have much trouble all through her pregnancy, and her mood changed to hopefulness— especially after I "guessed" that her child would be a girl, a replacement for Yana.

So when the child came, they named her Ericka.

Not too long ago, while I was telling her about Frank Regis and his niece, Jinky, she asked me to find out from them if it was possible that the spirit of Yana has returned to her in the person of Ericka. Her instincts, or mother's intuition, gave her the feeling that her new baby was really

A few nights ago, while we were having dinner at MacDonald's on Greenbelt, Frank posed the question to Cryssie, Jinky's crystal guide who lives in her crystal ball.

Cryssie's answer was: "No sweat. Yes. She is back to continue her learning ... No sweat." We looked at each other, rather surprised by the slang expression but Cryssie, like the other guides and masters, usually

spoke very formal English. The following day. I reported the happy news to Boots over the telephone. After I quoted the answer, I thought the line had gone dead because there was utter silence at the other end. "Boots?" I said. "The answer

s ves. It is Yana. In a very small, choked voice, she said: "Yes! I know. I know it

I wondered how she could have known. "Chic," she said, her voice a

OPM artistes and their peace album

bit more firm now. "That's the way she used to answer me. 'No sweat, Mommy! You know how kids speak these days. 'No sweat,

So that was why she couldn't answer me right away and I thought the line had gone dead.

"I was stunned!" I knew she was crying now — but in ecstacy, not in sorrow. "I think we have to take very good care of her now that we bave been given this second chance to have ber," she concluded.

As a postscript, we asked Cryssie another question which has been bugging us for years: When does a soul enter the

According to our Guide, the soul of an animal enters its body at birth. In buman beings, the soul enters the foetus during its early stages of development, but may come out once in a while if further processing is desired.

We wanted a more specific answer: what month? We were told that it could be anytime within the first two months. But from the moment of conception, a soul is already assigned to the foetus, hence abortion even at the earliest stage of pregnancy is against the laws of karma and reincarnation.

"Would you like to make another exciting discovery?" Cryssic teased. Yes, of course. "Talk to the child in the

womb," she advised. Because even if the baby is not yet fully formed, the soul is already intact and can start receiving information, love, and education.

The practice of talking to your baby while it is still in the womb was recently been advised by several world-renowned doctors, and I know a few mother who have tried it. One is Pops Fernandez, who used to sing to Robin while he was still in ber tummy, and surrounded herself with music, to make sure that her child would grow up to be a musiclover, if not a musician like his parents. Today, even if he can't

talk too well yet. Robin can already carry a tune.

Maybe this can be one way to prevent a miscarriage: talk to the pirit of the baby in your tummy. Make it feel Loved and wanted. Ask it to stay with you so both of you can contribute to each other's evolution.

Boots is now seeking an audience with Cryssie and the other masters, because she has so many questions to ask. Don't we



Yana's school picture.

ALMOST three weeks after Emil had been freed, I walked into the billiard hall and saw him at his favourite spot, and from the way the muscles were jumping in his jaw, I knew that he was plunged back into the depths of bitterness and melancholy. I didn't have to say anything. Right away, be let me know what was on his mind.

"This is it boy," he said. "They finally caught up with me. I knew it was gonna happen; It was only a matter of time.'
"What, Emil?"

He gave me a twisted smile. "Remember what I said about ex-cons? Well, now you know I was right. Nobody gives a con a hreak. Nobody. He slammed his fist against the wall. "I was fired today."

I stared at him. He'd been working for this accounting firm longer than I remembered, and the news that be was fired came as a surprise and shock. I mumbled something sympathetic to him.

Emil said, "Don't make any mistakes, boy. I know why I got the axe. They gave me a lot of bull about hard times, but I know different. They dropped me because I'm a con, and nobody wants a con on their

"But, Emil, do they even know about —"
Of course they know. What do you think I am blind or something?"
As a matter of fact, Emil is pretty blind, without his glasses. "I know the score, boy," he continued. "That's the way all of them are. One false step, one prison record, and click, out you go."

But maybe it's true, Emil. Maybe times are hard. I've been out of

He looked at me pityingly. "You're real innocent. And what do you think will happen when I golooking for a job? What do you think they'll say when they know about me?"

I couldn't answer him. I felt so had that I could hardly talk. After all I

didn't know so much about the business world. Maybe it was true. "I'm sorry, Emil." I said miserably.
"Don't worry about it," Emil said steely-eyed. "I won't have any trouble. There's more than one way to make money without slaving

away for some big shot company." "But I thought you like accounting?" 'There's something I like better. I got plans, kid, big plans. I haven't

get 'em all worked out yet, but I'll come up with them, no sweat. Any I knew what he meant, but I didn't want to say it. There was a caper

cooking in Emil's evil brain, a caper that he intended as more than a mental exercise. I could only hope and pray that I wouldn't have to take

But I was wrong. A week later, when we were both still looking for work. Emil telephoned me to stress the urgency of keeping our date at the billiard hall; a needless reminder. But it was obvious that his appointment had a greater significance than usual. I was immediately thrown into a minor panic; so much that I botched up an interview that afternoon. I was filling out a resume form at a big company looking for messeugers, and where the little dotted line said sex, I filled in Office messenger. The guy doing the interview looked at me kind of funny, and wbat do you expect, I didn't get the job.

Emil was reading comics when I entered the billiard hall, and when I sat down, I saw that the comics concealed a meticulous drawing that looked like the kind of floor plan you used to see in front of detective novels. He passed the comics over to me, his eyeballs shifting from side to side, and I peered at the thing without knowing whether he wanted me to read the comics or th diagram. I began to giggle, nervously and Emil punched my arm. "What's so funny? Can't you see what it is?"

"I don't know," I gulped. To tell you the truth, I was afraid of Emil when he acted like this.

"It's a penthouse apartment," Emil said. "The guy who owns it is loaded. And I mean loaded."

"His name's Claro Gorgonio, and he's on of my boss's clients. My exboss. I used to work on his books once in a while, and sometimes I went up to his apartment to pick up things for the company. I never met him himself, but know he's a rich guy. Quite a layout, huh?"

I looked at the diagram again, but it didn't make any sense to me. No

diagram ever did. But I didn't want Emil to know how dumb I was, So I "Now this here's a private elevator." Emil said, pointing with his

finger. "It lets off the foyer of the apartment. But there's also another elevator, a building elevator. The private elevator's self-operating, but the building elevator has a man running it. You got to have a key to work the private elevator, and it takes you right into the apartment. Get

I shook my head.

"What's the matter with you? If you got a key to the private elevator, you don't need a key to the door of the penthouse. All you do is get in the elevator and you're inside the apartment, with a buzzer; otherwise you have to use a key. Now the building operator, be's a guy named Bonnie. and sometimes he leaves his elevator to take a little rest down in the basement. I've been timing him for the last three night, and it runs about like this."

He pulled out a sheet of paper with a lot of neat numbers in a long

"Now do you get the picture? All we gotta do is hang around until Bonnie takes off for his rest, slip the key into the private elevator, and we got it made. There must be thousands of pesos lying around that For the first time. I realised that Emil was talking about burglary.

"Wow," I said, "You mean you're gonna rob the place?" "What else am I talking about, you fool? We won't have any trouble. They don't bave any kids or stay-in maids or — "We?" I squeaked.

He punched my arm again, and quickly canvassed the people at the other tables. Nobody appeared to be listening, so he went on. I was now sweating with fright. I don't know if I can refuse him this time. But I have to. Robbery, after all, or just the thought of it scares me like death.

From the provinces

LANAO DEL SUR: The candidacy of Sultan Mohammad Mangacop Jimmy Bangcola, who is running for assemblyman in the 2nd district of Lanao del Sur under the NP banner, has been unanimously endorsed by leaders of several socio-civic organisations and tribal groups in Muslim Mindanao autonomous region election.

Sultan Bangcola, former mayor of Butig, Lanao del Sur, was described by youth and civic leaders as "defender of the common man and proponent of social justice." We welcomed the candidacy of Sultan Jimmy Bangcola as a perfect combination of a professional, politician, and military man who can accelerate the implementation of government program-mes and reforms in the four Mindanao Muslim autonomous provinces," the leaders said.

Bangcola has served the four autonomous provinces in different capacities as constabulary officer (retired PC colonel) with outstanding performance baving received several awards from the AFP and civic organisations.

MANILA: Local government Secretary Lins T. Santos suspended Qurino Gov. Mariano J. Pimentel from office for 90 days for alleged dishonesty and misconduct

He was administratively charged before the Department of Local Government (DLG) under Sec 60 of the Local Government Code for alledged abuse of authority, dishonesty, and misconduct by Qurino provincial board members Nestor B. Gatchalian, Pedro L. Bacani, Alfredo Agapito, Leandro C. Cardena, Florencio P. Ruiz, and Vice-Gov. Josie Castillo

In a 14-page decision last Feb 12, it appeared that Pimentel bad allegedly falsified and manipulated facts of excerpts of minutes of the provincial board.

QUEZON CITY: Quezon City Regional Trial Court Judge Maximiano Asuncion issued a warrant for the arrest of movie actress Liza Lorena, two days after she was released from military cus-

Asuncion issued a warrant against Miss Lorena after she failed to appear for arraignment of charges of violation of the Dangerous Drugs Law filed against her. the court likewise ordered the confiscation of P40,000 cash bond she had posted.

Lorena was arrested by Narcotics Command operatives following a raid on her residence at 18 Sorsogon St, West Avenue, QC. Seized fromher house were shabu powder and several sticks of dried marijuana cigarettes.

Narcom probers filed two counts of illegal possession of illegal drugs against Lorena who was comitted to the Quezon City jail.

Right after the filing of the cases, the movie actress pos-ted a P40,000 cash bond for her release from military custody.

Asuncion told reporters that he set the arraignment of the cases against Lorena yesterday but the movie actress failed to appear.

A lawyer representing her told the court that his client was ill. However, he failed to present a medical certificate to support his claim.

Asuncion said the failure of Lorena's counsel to present the needed medical certificate prompted the court to issue a bench warrant for her arrest.

BALAYAN, Batangas: The incumbent members of the board of directors of the Batangas Sugar Central Inc. (BSCI) were unanimously reelected during the annual stockholders meeting held last Feb 10 in the compound of the sugar central in this

Re-elected directors were Soledad L. Dolor, Fe Dolor Serrano, Federico M. Serrano, Danilo L. Dolor, Benjamin S. Martinez, Edna P. Alaras, Victoria Mangahas, Jose Feliciano, Jose Virata Jamir, Victor Pineda Jr and Luis T. Ramos.

Industrialist-banker Soledad Dolor, who presided over the stockholders meeting was re-elected chairperson of the board, former congressman Federico M. Serrano, president; Fe Dolor Serrano. vice-chairperson; and lawyer Ricardo T. Diaz, corporate secretary.

The BSCI, a 100 per cent Filipino-owned company, became a successful venture through the efforts of the Dolor-Serrano clan which started its milling operation during the crop year 1968-69.

Minority stockholders led by lawyers Eduardo S. Martinez and former newspaperman Reynaldo B. Castelo praised the sugar central's new roads and bridges which made the remotest barangays in the province accessible to land transportation.

President Serrano reported in his message to the stockholders that the workers in the central are receiving higher wages than those of some firms, including those situated in Metro Manila.

Other executives who are assisting in the operation of the central are Teolisto Quintas, manager; Arnaldo Borja. chief accountant; Augusto Reyes, field operation manager, and Rodolfo Salanguit, factory manager.

BALANGA, Bataan: Four high-speed sewing machines worth \$3,000 (roughly P66,000) were recently donated by the US Peace Corps Volunteer to the Abucay Youth Organisation in Ahucay, this province. PCV director Paul Cover-

dell turned over the donation to the organisation. One of the machines has an edging device that could enable the user to work on hems and connect embroidery pieces in a record time.

Peace Corps volunteer Robin Masengale, who has been assigned to the local office of the Department of Agriculture, worked for the acquisition of the machines. Technical skills are needed to operate them.

The few workers skilled in the operation of high speed machines could not cope up with the order for ready-towear items. Efforts to develop technical skills have been difficult because the available machines have to be repaired most of the time.

The PCV's office for small projects assistance financed similar projects in Thailand, Morocco, Dominica Republic, and Costa Rica. Dominican

The turnover of the donation was witnessed by US Peace Corps volunteer director Coverdell, US Peace Corps-Philippines director Jim Lohman, Ms Theresa del Rosario, Ms Robin Masengale, and agriculture department personnel.

BAGUIO CITY: A conciliation meeting between management and labour at the strike-bound Philex Mines in Padcal, Tuba, Benguet resumed on Jan 2, last in Manila. The negotiations ran into a

deadlock during the yuleude. This developed when former labour secretary Franklin Drilon and lawyer Benny Laguesma, chief of the National Concilliation and Mediation Board (NCMB), failed to resolve the issues between management and labour during its nine-hour negotiation last Dec 27.

More than 6,000 miners of Philex Mines went on strike last Dec 22 when management failed to give them their 16th-month pay which should have been computed under a new rate.

The striking workers are under the umbrella of the National Miners, and Allied Workers Union (Namawu). John Badongen is the president of the Philix union. Ben Acantilado, Namawu

secretary-general, said that the Philex Mines workers are insisting on their demand for a 16th-month pay computed under the new rate because they said that the company, which is one of the biggest copper-producing mines in the country, can very well afford to give it.

MANILA: A monthly sales record of P99.4 million was chalked up in December by BF Homes Inc., a real estate developer. The company, which was

rehabilitated only in April 1988, has now a total sales revenue of P822 million.

The sales consist mainly of purchases made after the failed coup, which, according to industry sources, is a remarkable development. BF Homes expects more sales in 1990, saying its current inventories are within the reach of the middle-income strata.

A group of foreign contractors currently working on BF Homes Quezon City is negotiating for bigger development projects.

Another group, the China Shanghai Corporation for Foreign, Economic and Technical Co-operation is currently doing a P 96 million turnkey housing contract in Las Pinas and Quezon City. Plans by this entity for medium-rise housing units in BF Paranaque are under way.

In addition, an investment mission from Taiwan will

start negotiations ondevelopment projects in Manila on June 10, 1990.

With these developments, complete rehabilitation of BF Homes is expected by 1990, or two-and-half years ahead of

schedule. BONGAO, Tawi Tawi: Department of Local Government (DLG) region 9 director Abdulgadir Ibrahim resigned recently from the government to run for regional assemblyman in Tawi-Tawi during the Feb 17 elections in the newly formed Muslin Mindanao auton-

omous region. "It was the most painful decision I have made in my life," Ibrahim, a lawyer, said when he filed his certificate of candidacy last week with the Commission on Elections.

Ibrahim added his leaving the DLG was also a financial sacrifice since as a director he was receiving a basic monthly salary of P15,000 and some regular allowances while a regional legislator in the new political set-up will get only P10,000 a month.

STA CRUZ, Laguna: The model barangays of Laguna were presented the "Gawad Huwarang Barangay" awards the other day at the Provincial Cultural Centre

The awards highlight the "Magandas Laguna" programme which was launched on Jan 25, 1989 by Gov. Felicisimo T, San Luis. The programme includes Operasyon Linis" in roads, Filipnizing municipal markers, and continuous treeplant-

ing.
Barangay captains are also trained under the programme, San Luis said.

"We need leaders who are development-oriented, not more political leaders," Gov. Felicisimo T. San Luis said in a dialogue with the barangay captains and other community leaders. Aside from the outstanding

barangay captain, the province's top youth leader was also cited the other day with "Huwarang Kabataan" awards. Fifteen government agencies, beaded by the provincial

government of Laguna, compose the programme's committee. Sen. Edgardo J. Angara was the programme's guest speaker. SAMPALOC: The gym-

nasium of the Legarda Elementary School (LES) on J. Fajardo St. in Sampaloc. Manila has been converted into a mini-hospital for a free day-long medical and surgical

The University of Santo Tomas (UST) medical missions headed by Dr Willian L. Olalia and Orlando C. Rodriguez of the UST medical student body are slated to treat 3,000 needy patients during the clinic.

UST medical missions committee vice-president Michael P. Ramos said 60 practising and student doctors and nurses will provide free services to needy school children, teachers and residents of neighbouring harangays. Sponsored by the LES

Alumni Association (LE-SAA), led by Dr Ofelia M. Carague, the free clinic is an offsboot of a recent health survey which indicated that a number of school children are malnourished and are suffering from pulmonary diseases. Carague said free medi-

cines courtesy of the UST missions, the LESAA and the Department of Health will be given to patients.

OUEZON CITY: A young busioesswoman and former Saudia flight stewardess could have nothing better for a belated birthday gift than hitting the P6.6 million slot machines jackpot last Jan 25, the biggest in Philippine casino history.

Miss Mylene Tan, 26, single, a resident of Quezon City. won P6,591,020 in the Inter-City Superlink Jackpot prize at Casino Filipino branch in the Manila Pavilion Hotel, said the Philipine Amusement and Gaming Corp., which runs the country's eight

Miss Tan, who celebrtated her birthday Monday, will pay withholding tax of P1.3 million to the Bureau of Internal Revenue for her winnings.

Miss Tan is a Baccarat player who chanced upon and fancied the slot machines. She bought P200 worth tokens and hit the jackpot on the third P5 token inserted in the slot machine.

The Inter-City Link Jackpot was set up in May 1988 and a jackpot of P.5 million was hit in November 1988.

Jose Mari Chan, Marco Sison, Janet Basco, Sheryl Cruz, Gino Padilla, Samantha Chavez, Camille Victoria and the I4-K, contributed their precious Sayang Na Sayang. time and talent to produce the album Kapayapaan, gratis at amore. All proceeds of this particular LP are earmarked

for the Artistes for Peace Movement, a group of concerned entertainers who offer free shows to soldiers in different army camps and military installations all over the country.
"Kapayapaan" may well he described as a sequel

to the 1986 Handog Ng Pilipino Sa Mundo album, which the same above-mentioned Filipino artistes, well, almost, recorded to immortalize the peaceful EDSA Revolution. What apparently prompted the group, to do

"Kapayapaan" is the realisation — after having witnessed the Dec I coup attempt - that is far from The title track "Kapayapaan," is composed by

Jim Paredes and Eddie Munji. Is it true that Tonton Gutierrez and starlet Monica Herrera are currently seeing a lot of each other? Tonton and Monica are reportedly seen often together doing the rounds of disco houses.

Monica was likewise at Tonton's beek and call

when the latter was confined in the bospital for overfatigue recently. I wonder how Monica is helping make things easier for Tonton, whose mom, actress Liza Lorena, was nabbed by narcotics agents for allegedly being a shabu user. I heard Tonton is taking his mom's

problem hard. Manilyn Reynes denies that she and her fellow singer, Ogie Alcasid, are more than friends.

'He is not even courting me," she whimpers. Manilyn admits, though, that early last year she and Keempee de Leon were steadies. They broke off for reasons, she says, which she'd rather not reveal. But, she gushes, she enjoyed their relationship while it lasted. "I bope he did, too," Manilyn adds. Manilyn is currently being dubbed as the country's biggest teen musical idol. Only last Dec, she was

presented the Monster Record Award for best per-

A DOZEN artistes, namely, Celeste Legaspi, Apo of Original Flotipino Music) by the Mouster Radio Hiking Society, Kuli Ledesma, Gary Valenciano, RX-93 (composed by Mouster disc jockeys Louie O. RX-93 (composed by Monster disc jockeys Louie O. Divine, Sleasy Al Martines, Dylan de Vito, Creepy Tom Santana and BJ Alba) for the monster record,

Of Ogie (Alcasid), his single, Nandito Ako, is bkewise a mega-hit. In fact, Ogie was himself awarded the title Most Important New Artist of 1989 by

the radio station, Magic 89.9 WTM. Ogie has a new single, Sa Kanya, written by Neocolours' vocalist Ito Rapadaas, which is guaranteed to bring Ogie to greater heights as a

recording artiste. Hilda Koronel says she has stopped counting the number of times she has staged a screen comeback. "What is important," she states, "is I am invariably welcomed by the public despite my periodic

absences. Perhaps, because the public knows I have

good reasons (such as motherhood, failing health, studies, travels abroad, or, simply because the offers didn't appeal to her) for going out of circulation." In Nagsimula Sa Puso, referrred to as her major comeback (she played a supporting role in Bahan-gon Ako at Dudarugin Ka last year), Hilda plays a school teacher who has an obsessed lover in one of her students, portrayed by Richard Gomez. He is so

in love with her, that he hounds ber even when she already becomes a mother. Hilda considers Nagsimula sa Puso her best movie so far. She has the highly regarded tandem of Mel

Chionglo and Ricky Lee for director and scriptwriter respectively. Supporting Hilda and Richard are Hilda's exhusband, Jay Ilagan, Cherie Gil, Armida Siguionreyna and Kristine Garcia, herself on the comeback

Guess what Ricky Davao's most important gift to Jackie Lou Blanco when she marked her hirthday Answer: Ricky married her before a judge.
But the wedding was so hush-bush that their
friends came to know about it only st the hirthday
blowout which Ricky tendered for Jackie Lou at the

Bistro Lorenzo in Greenhills. The couple have a son, Kenneth Robert, who

turned one year old last December.



OPM stars who sang 'Kapayapaan': Janet Basco, Boboy Garrovillo, Sheryl Cruz, Kuh Ledesma, Celeste Legaspi, Gino Padilla, Marco Sison, Danny Javier and the 14-K.

bdul Aziz fulfils his lifetime dream

By Fathima Ahmed Arab Times staff

EGYPTIAN Farouk Abdul Aziz was brought up on a diet of movies, music, and arts - the three merging to form a part of his personality.

To Farouk, presenter of Cine Club and director of Kuwait's Cine Cluh, cinema means a lifetime of thrills, fulfilling his creativity, making him complete.

The 43-year-old hachelor, reclines on his leather chair in his office at the Kuwait Cine Cluh headquarters in Bneid Al Qar as he talks about his romance with cinema. There is a glow in his intense eyes as he subconsciously indulges in theatrical postures to make a point.

When the lights go off in a cinema hall, the actor in him emerges as the real Farouk takes a back seat, and he absorbs, fantasises, heeoming a part of celluloid dreams.

"It's been a very, very, very long dream," says Farouk, emphasising each word, as if someone might just miss the

He was introduced to cinema at a very early age, maybe one, maybe two. But he has vivid memories of his weekly trips to the cinema with his father, He was three years old. Sitting in the cinema balls, be let his imagination run wild. He would become the hero, the villian, or any other character that caught his fantasy. He wanted to be one of the stars on the screen.

At home, he would play-act the roles be saw on the silver screen. He recalls; "I would stand in front of the mirror and once be the cowboy or the romancer or anything that caught my fancy. "His mother was aghast. She thought he has gone nuts. Soon, she came to grips with reality: Farouk just wanted to be the centre of attraction.

At the age of 10, he had already started a cinema club for the neighbourhood kids, who thronged his room to watch the crude film he had collected from the local cinema hall in his hometown in Egypt's Delta region.

Each morning he would walk

and collect the euttings, bring them home and glue them into eight-minute features. There would be a one-minute clip from an Arabie film followed by a bit from an English film and so on. With a crude projector, given as a present by his father, be was in

business, charging a penny for the "filming" in his room. The walls in his room decorated with life-size posters of his heroes like John Wayne and Randolph Scott. When he was on his own, he felt close to them, and a part of movies. He longed to be one of the faces ... an actor, hut his inherent timidity prevailed. He recoiled at the prospect of taking an active part in dramatics at school. "I just could not think about going on stage" he recalls.

He was shy, partly, was due to five years schooling in a girls school, where he bad gone for a year at the age of five and stayed for the next five, because the headmistress had fallen in love with him.

"I became introspective and mhibited, and when I was finally transferred to the boys division, could not cope with the rough world," he said.

He was so accustomed to gen-tleness, broke into tears each time a fight broke out in the boys school; or when a teacher raised his voice. "The teacher would scold another student, hut I cried anyway" he said. Those were turbulent years for young Farouk; he retreated into a world of his own. His solbing outbursts les-

sened, but did not vanish. When he moved to Cairo and was among the five students selected from 1,500 applicants for the acting course at the Higher Institute for Cinema, it was because he was petrified, and cried.

"As my role demanded an emotional outburst, I was considered highly realistie," be chuckles.

Actor Noor Al Shariff, who is now at the peak of his career, and actress Shams Baroodi, who quit films at the peak of ber career, were also selected at that time.

truant, and his influential uncle pulled strings to have the 16year-old lad outed from the Ins-

"I was asked to get out by the dean," said Farouk. The dean was Mohammed Kareem, the first Egyptian actor and filmmaker, a fearsome personality who intimidated the boy.

He was down but not out and laid out a strategy revolving around cinema, studying literary and film criticism, set up the first cinema club at Cairo University and the first Egyptian Cinema Club in Cairo. He branched out into journal-

ism and writing, and became a prolific writer of children's stories and comic strips and later, radio programmes, including The Gates of Cairo and Wind Whistles, a series on Omani navigator Ihn Majed, who travelled to China and India in the 16th century. He also did literary translation for the radio and produced and voiced a series on the life of Scott Fitzgerald.

This experience laid the foundations of what has now developed into a penchant for writing scripts and screenplays.

His first scripts were for "The Film Archives", a cinema show on Cairo TV. Always innovative, he took to analysing the movies he screened on the show and talked to people about the social, economic, political and religious contents of movies.

Farouk, inadvertently, got explosive footage; his non-con-formist attitude made the authorities jittery; they warned him but let the show go on. But a live interview with a Cuban filmmaker Thomas Guthrie Alia ahruptly ended his two-year on and-off affair with television in Cairo.

The mid-70s was an era of strict censorship. After Alia dis-cussed his film Lucia, covering of Fidel Castro, the government decided to call it a day for

"When you are young, you are an idealist, and make-belief that you can change the world," reflects Farouk. Today, time, and age, has mellowed his idealism making him more realistic.

Yet the ideal survives — his

romance with cinema. He has produced several documentaries and docudramas, including an 18-hour serial, Silk Road,



Vanassa Redgrave lalks to Abdul Aziz (1984).



Abdul Aziz interviewing Anthony Quinn (1979).

VELENSIAN DE GRANDE

KTV 1

Asia; and Marhaba, a travelogue ahout Turkey. He also made a film on Mustapha Akkad, entitled The Making of Lion of the Desert. One of his pet projects was a dialogue with actives Van

was a dialogue with actress Van-

A feature film, a cherished

project, has been on his mind for

more than five years. He env-

isions how he would make a go at

commercial moviemaking, reach

the masses and talk about the

"I don't want to be a movie

maker with a message; I want to sell dreams in the context of

social realities," he says.

One reality that bothers him is

his failure in personal life.
"Movies are to hlame," heginps,

telling us of his scepticism reagr-

ding marriage and his failure

screen-goddesses, and, perhaps,

I expect too much from women: I

go into a relationship expecting everything wonderful; it doesn't

divorce. "I was too young,

immature and, perhaps, too

romantie" he pauses reflectively,

and then, complains: "Most

women don't share my passion

for movies." He admits he can't

unravel the "mystery of

Now, at 43 he is at that stage of

life when he believes be must

"take the plunge and settle down." He is waiting for the right

girl, with a passion for films, to

knock at his door, "It's open,

anyone can enter." he said. Until

then, he is content with present-

ing entertaining movies for

Kuwait television viewers on

Cine Clnb, which celebrates its

Most Cine Club buffs enjoy

the movies, but complain about

Farouk's monologue about the

film. Anticipating the question,

be says: "I know, I know, most

viewers don't like the commen-tary in Arabic, but I can't do

anything about it." But there is

certainly something he can do

when he feels down in the dumps:

put on a movie classic and lose

himself in celluloid dreams.

10th anniversary this year.

His two marriages ended in

"I've been impressed by the

essa Redgrave.

1980's drug culture.

with women.

work," he explains.

MORNING 9.30 Opening and Holy

Quran 9.40 Sabah AlKhir News 9.50 Cartoon Serial

10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition) 10.30 Shuaa Min Al Madhi: Arabic Serial. 11.45 That's Incredible:

Foreign Variety Programme (Final Part) 12.25 News Summary 12.30 Holy Qnran and

Closedown EVENING

4.00 The Opening and Holy 4.15 The World Today via Satellite (Repetition)
4.45 Night Chemists,
Airlines and Official

Advertisements 6.00 Wa Qala Hakeem: Historical Serial

7.00 Varieties 7.15 The Agricultural Magazine: Lòcal Programme, Prepared and presented by Yaqoub Al Yousin

7.45 Diwaniyat Shuara Al Nabat: Programme

8.30 Good Evening and Local News 9.00 News In Arabie

9.45 Illa Al Shabab Maa Al Taheya: Arabic Serial (part 12) 10.45 Masafra Fi Hayat Al Akhareen: Arabic late

Night Feature, (part, 2), starring Ahmad Mathhar, Layla Ther, Sameera Sudqi 12.00 News Summary 12.05 The World Today via

Satellite Holy Quran and Closedown 12.30

KTY2

6.00 Opening announce-ment and Holy Quran 6.10 The New Three

Stooges. A cartoon series for children. 6.30 The Beachcombers. "A Boy & His Dog" "Tommy" finds a good substitute; a

stray dog called "Harry"...But the boy's joy is short-lived when a combination of events take place and force. Tommy to turn Harry over the society for the prevention of eruelty to animals.

7.00 The Colts. The Legacy Attempts are made to preserve the Celtic way of life and culture as well as Celtic minorities, par-ticularly the Welsh, in England.

8.00 New in English. Midnight Caller. "Fathers And Sins" Who is responsible for ehildren - the biological father or the persons who raise them?...An attempt to answer to this question varies in the Western and American socie-

9.30 Cosch. Whose Team Is 10.00 Q.E.D. Steroid Myth. A look at steroids as medicine used by ath-

letes and their effect on their conduct and 12.00 News in Brief 12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

Al Andulus Saigon Al Salmiyah Cry Freedom Al Hamra - -Arabie film-Drive-in Arabic film Al Firdous Haqeeqat Fahaheel Open Bhai ka Dushman Bhai Al Jahra Ek Duje ke Liye Granada Agnee Path Sulaibikhat Mob Busters Jleeb

Adharvam

Malone '

Ahmadi Drive in

WHATSON

ARTS

Sultan Gallery INDIAN artist Shamima Farid is showing a collection of per latest works at the Sultan Gallery, near Rolls Royce sbowroom. A wide selection of subjects are featured in the paintings of the artist, who has exhibited widely in Kuwait and overseas. However, this is Shamima's first solo-exhibition in Kuwait. Open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 8 **Watercolours of Arabia**

Recent watercolours by Patricia Millins on exhibition at the studio, the Tareq Rajab Museum, Jabriya, Saturday thru Thursday 9.30 to 12 and 4.30 to 8 pm, from March 6 to 20, 1990. Tel: 5315397: or 5318060.

SOCIAL

Ninth Kuwait gold & jewellery exhibition NINTH Kuwait gold and

jewellery exhibition has started yesterday at the grand ballroom of Kuwait Sheraton Al Rujaih Media Inter-

national, which organised the same successfully is organising it second time. Ten famous Kuwaiti jewellers are going to display their latest and best

The exhibition will continue up to March 15, 1990. It will be open for public from 9.30 am to l pm and from 4.30 to 8 pm. Jazz concert THE Kuwait Happy Times

Jazz Orchestra in concert play-ing Jazz from Miller to Modern. Hear great Jazz by Kuwait's only 15 pieces "Big Band:" March 13, 14at 7:30 pm in the Kuwait English School. Call 5334912 or 5314107 for ticket information. ACT auditions **AUDITIONS** for ACT's

upcoming production of Joe Orton's "Entertaining Mr Sloane" will be held Tuesday, March 13 at 8 pm. The play will be directed by Thomas Zugie and will be performed May 11-13 at the Mousetrap Theatre. Three males of varying ages and mature female are needed, For details, call 5321367 or

Kuwait Little Theatre KUWAIT Little Theatre presents "Oh Clarence", a comedy hy John Chapman. adapted from the books of P.G. Wodehouse. Gala Night is on March 19, 1990, at 7.30 pm with other performances on March 20, 21 and 22 at 8.00 pm. Tickets can be booked by phon-

ing 3919759.

Shakespeare's Macbeth

THE London Shakespeare Group, who bave already received rave reviews for their performance of Macbeth in Bahrain, Doha, Muscat and the Kuwait English School, Salwa on March 21 and 22, 1990 at 8 pm and on March 23, 1990, at 6 pm. The cast includes professional actors and actresses with classical backgrounds, who have appeared at the London's prestigious National Theatre, various West End theatres, television and radio. All seats are numbered, and can be reserved by ringing 5740256/ 7, 5625316, 5718143 or

Contact
THE next meeting of Contact, the ladies information

group, will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel, 10 am, on Saturday, March 17. Newcomers particularly welcome. For further details tel. 3720197; 4874513: 5388105. Seminar

THE seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art in The Light of Zodiacal Symbolism has been postponed. It commenced on Feb 11 and will be given upto March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 am - 12.30 pm or evening session on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration may be made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyah. Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

Shakespeare's Macbeth The London Shakespeare Group who have played in more than 50 countries and who are presently on a tour of Middle East, will present "MACBETH" at the Kuwait English School, Salwa, on 21st, and 22nd March at 8 am and 23rd March, 1990 at 6 pm. The cast includes actors and actresses with classical hackgrounds who have appeared at London's prestigious National Theatre, various West End Theatres, Television and Radio. For ticket reservations & further information ring: 5740256/7, 5625316, 5718143, op 5731782.

Jazz Concert THE Kuwait Happy Times Jazz Orchestra in concert playing Jazz from Miller to Modern. Hear great Jazz by Kuwait's only 15 pieces "Big Band": March 13, 14 at 7.30 pm in the Kuwait English School Call 5334912 or 5314107 for

ticket information. Bits 'n' Pleces An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel.

ASSOCIATION of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is holding a seminar to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Pakistan son of the renowned Muslim philosopher and poet. Allama Mohammad Iqbal and a retired justice of Pakistan Supreme Court will preside over the seminar at Sberaton Hotel on March 25th.

Dr. Iqbal will read a research paper on "the struggle to obtain a separate Muslim bomeland between Allama Iqbal's Allahbad address of 1930 and the Resolution of Pakistan in 1940." Mrs. Iqbal, a law graduate from the Harvard University and law professor at the University of Punjab, will speak on "the role of Muslim women in society as envisaged by Jinnah and Iqbal." A number of research papers on the Pakistan movement and the ideology of Pakistan will also be read at the seminar to be attended by diplomats and prominent per-

sonalities. Approb will also hold an evening with Dr lqbal and his wife on March 24th at the residence of Iqbal Latif to acquaint Pakistani ehildren in Kuwait about the ideology of Pakistan. Dr Iqbal will meet the Pakistani community at the Pakistan embassy on March 26. For further details, contact Approb: 2425315 Fax:

Holf — Festival of Colours THE IAC is celebrating the festival of colours to commemorate the coming of Spring on Thurs 22nd March at Funaitees with a suitable programme. Members and their guests are requested to eontact the IAC office (3904817), Sharma (2644863). Raman (3903879), Mathews (4343329), Srivastava (4343329), Srivastava (4898162) or Munshi (2423740) for details and passes. Because of limitations, passes are available on first-come-firstserve basis.

Photography classes
PHOTOGRAPHY classes
by Anne Eid beginning Saturday, March 17, in Surra. Call: Anne - 2426135.

Bangladesh get-together A NUMBER of Bangladeshi families will hold a spring get-together at the Rawda Park, Damascus Street on March 23. The day-long programme, which starts at 8 am, will

and gents games and bingo. For details, contact telephone 3725312, 4315352, 4715734, or 3713923.

inelude children's games, ladies

SPORTS

Now at Messilah Beach Hotel Health Club LIFE Saving Courses with

Royal Life Saving Society coach, Grade 1 Examiner wil be commencing in March 1990. Ergocycle fitness computer tests and courses now available. Jazzercise/aerobics/staying power/yoga and ballet exercise classes also available. Swimming elasses will commence March 1990.

Apollo Fitness Centre at Holiday Inn Kuwait

Julie Dent wants you ... to cbeck out the new look at Holiday Inn and make 1990 the year for a happier, healthier you. Squash and tennis courts with professional eoaches available. Separate gym facilities for men and women, including steam, sauna and jacuzzi. Burn off those extra pounds in Julie's exercise classes or swim your way to fitness in our heated pools. Why not try out our 4-lanes bowling alley or simply relax in the lounge with friends. You have tried the rest, now sample the best. Call in now for further details on memhership, activities and events ... There is something for everyone. So, whatever your sport, call now on 4742000 ext. 6700 or ext. 6788 for the recreation man-

HOTELS

Holiday Inn AI AHMADI Coffee Shop: An ideal venue for that husiness lunch or a relaxing dinner. Michael and Elaine, our duo sing for you every evening from 8:00 till midnight. Choose from our lavish international huffet and then sit back and enjoy the Holiday Inn's excellent service. Why not treat yourself to our value for money. Breakfast buffet you can always work off those excess calories at the Apollo Fitness Centre.

Al Andalus Supper Club: Spend our Thursday night Arabic style. Savour nur exotic Oriental and international food. Relax to the musical entertainment provided by our resident Arabie band. Come and enjoy ... you deserve it. Friday Family Lunch. A

great time for the whole family. Prizes and surprises for the children with Disney characters and our amazing magician. A sumptuous Oriental and international buffet complimented by the sounds of our resident

bassy and

Kuwait International Hotel In addition to traditional euisine there will be a handicraft and carpet exhibition,

buffet dinner with an elaborate fashion show and cultural evening on March 16 and 19. Turkish set menu and a special fashion sbow on March 17 and 18, in the Failaka Restaurant. Tiekets at: 2530000 ext. 4010. Bella Italia: There is a new

experience in Italian style dining every evening at La Palma Restaurant from 12 to March 21. Specially flown in for the occasion, chefs Manuel and Roberto Ruppelt will present an unlimited selection of pasta, Mediterranean seafood and desserts. Bellissimo! One guest complimentary for each group of 6 persons. Telephone: 2530000 ext. 8166.

Kuwait City Ahlam Pharmacy Fahd Al Salem Street Talal Pharmacy Al Hilali Street Hawalli and Al Nugra Al Hana Pharmacy Beirut Street

PRAYERS

Fajr Zohr Asr Maghreb

Al Salam Hotel A GRAND Moroccan festival was launched March 10 at the El Bendar Coffee Shop of Al Salam Hotel. This festival is being sponsored by the Moroc-Maroc. An exotic display of handicrafts, a detailed view of national highlights, will be followed by an attractive huffet adequately dressed by a Moroccan chef. Besides plenty of prizes and surprises, a return air ticket to Morocco will top the hill of entertainment. The festival will continue until Marcb 16.

folk dances, folk music. Gala

NIGHT CHEMIST

Al Ahraj Pharmacy Dahal Al Khozaci Street

TURKISH Fashion Show:

Al Salmiya and Al Rumaithiya Ibn Al Nafees Pharmacy Hamad Al Mubarak Steet Al Fahaheel and Al Ahmadi Al Wafa Pharmacy Al Dabous Street Al Farwaniya Al Jazira Pharmacy Main Street

4,44 am 11.59 3.21 pm 5.54





Prize distribution

The Bangladesh School, Kuwait, held its annual prize distribution ceremony on Friday. The Bangladesh Ambassador, K.M. Shehabuddin was the chief guest and presented the prizes (top) to the award-winning students. The principal and teachers of the school are seen with the ambassador and political counsellor in the picture above.

BBC world service highlights

The Green Debates

A RANGE of programmes devoted to environmental issues are being broadcast during March. Among them are four debates which reflect current anxieties them are four debates which reflect current anxieties about the state of our planet. Opening the series from Oxford Unversity, Nick Hildyard, editor of the Ecologist magazine argues against the motion that "commercial forestry must play a part in any plan to conserve the rainforest. Proposing the motion is Dr. Timothy Cambridge University and among the floor conserver is Mrs De Frances of and among the floor speakers is Mrs De Freitas of the Brazilian mining company Companio de Valle

Sunday, March 11 at 17:01

A world of waste THE majority of waste discarded by today's modern society is disposable. But what happens to the cans, the plastic containers and many other kinds of waste that are thrown away? As the world's population passes the five billion mark we are running out of space for people and their refuse. In two 30-minutes programmes Jonathan Head tries to

find out how the experts are dealing with the problem and how we can cut down on ruhbish. Monday, March 12 at 09:30 and 13:01

The music makers

THE lives and careers of six widely differing personalities come under scrutiny in this new series of programmes with Jeremy Siepmann. He begins with one of the giants of jazz. Thomas "Fats" Waller. Composer of such successes such as 'Ain'! Misberhavin' he brought jazz into the lives of millions with his unique blend of art and humour. Friday, March 16 at 13:30 and Monday, March 12 at 20:15

Children of the ice IN a series of six short talks scientist John Gribbin describes how changes in the earth's climate might have influenced the evolution and development of human life. This week he offers an explanation for the extinction of the dinosaurs, a demise which

allowed our mammal ancestors to flourish. Wednesday, March 14 at 15:15 and Thursday, March 15 at 09:30 and 22:30

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Market watch

Trade volume surges

Companies continue to declare dividends

THE Alshall index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday, Mar 7, 1990 an average of 39.19 points with an increase of 0.45 point — 1.16 per cent — over last week's average of Wednesday, Feb 28, 1990. The Alshall index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 64.48 points with a decrease of 0.45 points — 0.69 per cent — for the same period, according to Al Shall weekly market review.

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The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 26.55 million shares at a daily average of 5.31 million shares with an increase of 9 per cent over the previous week's daily average of 4.87 million

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 6.08 million shares at a daily average of 1.216 million shares with an increase of 185 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.427 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD9.08 million at a daily average of KD1.82 million, a decrease of 50 per cent from last week's daily average of KD 3.63 million.

The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.235 million at a daily average of KD0.047 million, an increase of 213 per cent over last week's daily average of KD 0.015 million.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector came first at 47 per cent of total trading against 90.5 per cent last week. The National Bank of Kuwait had thelead at 38 per cent, followed by

The Gulf Bank at 19 per cent and Al Ahli Bank at 15 per cent.

The investment sector came second at 30 in which Kuwait International Investment Company had the lead at 51 per cent, followed by Kuwait Investment Projects Company at 18 pr cent and National Investment Company at 13 per cent.

The Real Estate Sector came third at 15 per cent in which Kuwait Real Estate Company had the lead at 52 per cent followed by United Reality Company at 31 per cent and Pearl of Kuwait Real Estate Company at 17 per cent. As for the non-Kuwaiti shares Estate Company at 17 per cent. As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, The Arabian General Investment Company (SHUA'A) had the lead at 59 per cent, followed by Bahrain International Bank at 34 per cent and Umm-Al-Quain Cement Company at 7 per

The market gave signs of slight activity which was reflected on four of the six indices and was more pronounced in the non-

The concentration in trading in the banking sector's shares which was observed during the past few weeks decreased, this was reflected on the value of traded shares which decreased due to the fact that shares of the banking sector have a higher price average

Listed companies continue to declare dividend distributions. Five companies have declared distributions last week, four of which are listed in the Kuwaiti shares market and one in the non-Kuwaiti shares market. Three of the Kuwaiti companies declared cash dividends only while one declared both cash and stock dividends.

The percentage of companies that declared dividends in the Kuwaiti market reached 63.6 per cent of total listed companies which 57.1 per cent declared cash dividends while 42.9 per cent declared both cash and stock dividends. The latter is considered to be high inspite that it fell compared to previous weeks. Only two companies have declared dividend distributions in the non-Knwaiti shares market which constitutes 33.3 per cent of total

iisted companies in that market.

Kuwali shareholding companies index

G. Med. Projs.

Wed. Change Total Index

Base period 31/12/1983.

Banking Sector

—All the companies listed by

The Gulf Bk	30.15	29.70	0.44
The Comm. Bk	24.15	23.71	0.44
Al Ahli Bk	30.28	29.77	0.50
Bk of Kt & ME	30.97	30.97	
Kuwait R. Est. Bk	29.14	28.29	0.86
Burgan Bk	26.01	25.81	0.21
Kt r inance House	. 78.27	77.45	0.82
Sector Index	48.45	47.63	0.82
Inv. Sector		0.10	
Kuwait Inv. Co.	9.18	9.18	
Kt. Int. Inv. Co. IFA	8.59 23.16	8.59 24.45	-1.29
Comm. Facilities	148.50	145.75	2.75
National Inv.	55.88	57.84	-1.96
Kt. Inv. Proj.	89.89	92.13	-2.25
Coast Inv. & Dev.	89.41	89.41	
Sector Index	31.70	31.92	-0.22
Ins. Sector	01110		V
Kt. Ins. Co.	35.88	35.88	_
Gulf Ins. Co.	23.08	23.08	_
Al Ahleia Ins.	50.84	50.84	_
Warba Ins. Co.	50.69	50.69	_
Sector Index	35.74	35.74	_
Real Est. Sec.		10.74	
Kt. Real Est.	12.11	12.74	-0.64
Utd. Realty Nat. Real Est.	5.22	5.35	-0.12
Pearl of Kt.	39.42 61.90	39.42 63.49	1 50
Sector Index	15.17	15.50	-1.59 - 0.33
ind. Sector	15.17	13.30	7,33
Kt. Cmt. Co.	11.45	11.45	_
Ref. Ind.	84.55	84.55	
Gulf Cables	108.60	104.08	4.53
Kt. Pharm.	60.44	60.44	_
Sector Index	29.34	28.83	0.51
Services Sector	20.07	20.00	9101
Kt. Cmptr. Co.	140.40	140.40	
Kt. Cinema Co.	7.61	7.61	_
Pub. Whousg Co.	59.60	58.59	1.01
Kt. Comm. M.Co.	35.91	36.83	-0.92
M. Tele, Syst.	352.38	338.10	14.29
Sector Index	58.90	57,31	1.58
Food Sector	20.50		
L. Trad. & Transp.	29.29	29.29	_
Utd Fisheries	11.05	11.05	
Kt. Utd Poultry	110.01	110.01	
Kt. Food Co.	73.56	73.56	-
Sector Index	39.49	39.49	0.45
Overali Index	39.19	38.74	U.45

Non-Kuwaiti sharehol	ding comp	anles ind	ex
	Wed.	Wed,	Change
<u></u>	07/03/90	28/02/90	points
First G. Bk.	236.84	236.84	· -
Bah. Inti. Bk.	81.38	82,76	-1.38
Bah. M.E. Bk.	94.92	94.92	
A. Gen. Inv. (Sbua)	43.94	43.94	
Limm Al Q. Cmt.	17.25	17.25	
G. Med. Prois.	13.13	- 13.13	
Total Index	64:48	64:63	-80.45

-All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

Jordanian premier for Riyadh

AMMAN, Jordan, March 10, (AP): Prime Minister Mudar Badran left for Saudi Arabia today for talks with Saudi officials on regional develop-mens and Jordan's economic problems.

A well-informed Jordanian official said Badran "was expected to resume talks with Saudi officials on Jordan's troubled economy and the kingdom's serious financial crisis."

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that Badran will also brief Saudis on King Hussein's recent efforts to halt Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the occupied

territories. On Feb 15, Hussein visited the Saudi kingdom and an official announcement then reported that Hussein and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd "discussed economic and financial ties."

Later that month, Hussein also toured Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates

and Iraq. The Jordanian official said Hussein's tour to the Gulf was aimed at "securing stable aid from our brethren there to help this country overcome its serious

financial troubles." Jordan built up an \$8.3 billion foreign debt which King Hussein blamed on the shortfall of aid from oil-ricb Gulf states.

The official Petra News Agency said Badran was carring a letter to King Fahd from King Hussein.

Petra did not disclose the contents of the letter, but the Jordanian official said it "dealt with King Hussein's talks with Europa's leaders on Arabeilloris. to reach a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

Hussein is in the United Kingdom for discussions with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and Arab fears that they will be settled in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. He held similar talks with Frencb President Francois Mitterrand last week in Paris.

Jordan is especially worried because it fears massive Jewish territories could lead Israel to push West Bank Palestinians into its territory, triggering political and economic upheaval.

UK energy

minister in

Oman for talks

MUSCAT, Oman, March 10, (AP): British Energy Minister Peter Morrison conferred today with Ahmed Saced Al Shanfari, the sultanate's Minister of Oil

and Minerals, at the start of a three-nation Gulf tour that will

also the take him to the United

The official Oman News Agency said the two ministers

exchanged views on several mat-

Morrison is accompanied by

75 industrialists reprsenting

more than 50 oil-industry companies on a tour to expand co-operation with the Gulf countries, among the richest oil

The United Kingdom is one of the biggest oil producers outside the 13-nation Organisation of

Petroleum Exporting Countries

13-nation, and among the largest

It boasts world-wide sales of

goods and services related to oil technology amounting to about

exporters of goods to the Gulf.

Arab Emirates and Qatar.

ters related to energy.

A share broker ponders in trading as he puts his hands against his forehead, watching price movements at the Tokyo Stock Exchange as shares rose 600.54 points to 54,291.43 on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto) Bonds dip sharply

EW YORK, March 10. (Reuter): Surprisingly strong employment figures for February led to sharp losses in the bond market on Friday, undermining stocks.

The dollar ended with stender gains in slow trading.

The dollar ended with stender gains in slow trading.
The strong employment figures suggested the economy is stronger than investors had believed, backing the view that the Federal Reserve is unlikely to cut interest rates anytime soon to boost economic growth.

The Libert Deprivation of the minth month in a row, but the number of new jobs created jumped sharply.

Reacting to the jobs growth and the prospect that interest rates

would remain firm, bond prices fell.

The benchmark 30-year treasury bond fell three quarters of a point, or \$7.50 per \$1,000 face amount, raising its yield to \$.62 per cent on Thursday. As bond prices fall, their yields rise.

The bond fell nearly a point during the session, but recovered from its lows.

The bond left heariy a point during the session, but recovered from its lows.

The pound lost nearly 2.5 cents amid anxiety over recent demonstrations against a new tax imposed by City Halls across which is addition point that the popularity of the conservative government and of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is at an all-time low as inflation rises and interest rates remain high.



Toyota joins the league of luxury motoring

At a recent dinner reception bosted by Mohamed Naser Al Sayer & Sons Est. at the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel, a new level of huxury automobile, manufactured by Toyota Motor Corporation of Japan, was launched into the market.

To their opening speeches, Mr. Naser Mohamed Al Sayer. Chairman, and Mr Dennis A. Stickley, Managing Director and Chief Executive of Mohamed Naser Al Sayer & Sons Est., clearly stated a firm belief that with the introduction of the "Lexus LS400". Toyota has moved into the ranks of the "giants" in luxury motoring. Indeed, with a waiting list in Japan of over one year, it is not difficult to imagine that the Lexus heralds a new breed in innovation, style and finish.

The setting of the launch was both lavish and unique. After a brief visual presentation, guests were pleasantly surprised to find the doors to the Sheikha Ballroom swing open and a Lexus LS400 driven onto superb staging fashioned in the shape of a question mark.

mark.

There was, however, no question in the minds of the guests as to whether the Lexus LS400 has attained its product philosophy which is to offer uncompromised antomotive engineering, design, luxury and quality in a sophisticated new class of high-performance, luxury automobile.

Not surprisingly, it took 6 years, 2,300 technicians, 1,400 engineers, 450 prototypes, 4.3 million test kilometres and 300 patent applications to produce one of the finest automobiles in the market today. The Lexus LS400 not only features mechanical excellence

and precision, but has been designed with the driver's and passenger's needs very much is the forefront.

This new 4-door luxury sedan is powered by a 4.0 litre V8 four cam 32-valve cogine with weight-saving aluminium cylinder heads and block, plus four camshafts, four valves per cylinder and computer controlled fuel injection.

While the speed and efficiency of 260 horsepowers, coupled with a very low coefficient of drag, the lowest among top-class tuxury cars, give birth to first-class motoring performance, the driver of the Lexus LS400 enjoys the highest standard of low interior ooise level, and can feel confident in the security of large-diameter ventilated disc brakes and electronic anti-lock braking system.

To emphasise the painstaking design that went into achieving safety, the LS400's rack-and-primon steering is variable powerassisted according to car speed, and the tyres of the LS400 were specially developed in line with it's performance technology.

The spacious mierior of the Lexus LS400 very clearly speaks of elegance. An attentive yet to detail has ensured a subtle harmonisa-

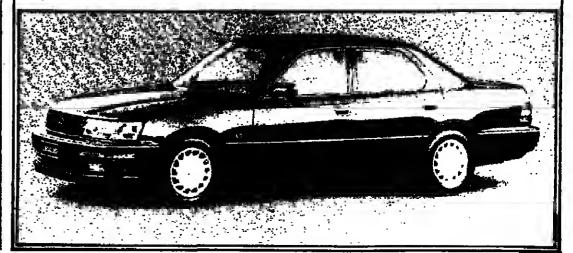
The spacious interior of the Lexus LS400 very clearly speaks of elegance. An attentiveeye to detail has ensured a subtle harmonisation of colour, texture and durability.

Because the Lexus philosophy combines beauty and function; power windows, power lumbar support adjustment, tilt and telescopic steering wheel, seven speaker audio system, ten-way power front seats and a powerful automatic climate-control system represent just some of the standard equipment featured in this cushive experience.

represent just some of the acquainty car.
Inspite of the fact that Toyota has provided in the Lexus LS400, stake-of-the-art technology, Mohamed Naser Al Sayer & Sons Est. have taken one step further by developing a package of upparalleled after-sales benefits. Certainly, a buyer of an automobile in this league deserves the very best maiotenance and

servicing facilities.

Without a shadow of a doubt, the Lexus LS400 has set the trend for leading luxury cars of the future.



Kuwait to step up ties

VIENNA, March 10, (Kana); Kuwali's Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifa arrives in Budapest Monday on an official four-day visit for talks with senior Hungarian officials on means of expanding bilateral co-operation in oil and energy fields, Kuwait's ambassador to Austria and non-resident

ambassador to Hungary Abdul Hamid Al Awadhi told Kuna here today that Sheikh Ali will also discuss joint co-

operation in the field of oil industry.

He underlined that Kuwait maintained traditional relations with Hungary but noted that cogoing political openness and economic reforms in that East European nation could serve as an incentive for expension in various important investment sectors especially in oil and energy which occupy a major portion in Hungarian industrial infrastructure.

Awadhi said that Hungary, in its capacity as an oil importing country, provides opportunities for bilateral co-operation in that vital sector in view of Kuwait's renouned experience in petrochemicals and marketing oil

could serve as a spring board for boosting Kuwaiti presence in the oil and energy sector in East European markets in view of that country's role in the area in addition to its distinctive geographic position as a bridge between East and West Europe.

omic experts believe that Hungary has the necessary basic industrial infrastructure to ensure success of its economic reforms, and the transition from the former government-

planning to the open market policies.

Sheikh Ali s visit follows the conclusion of an agreement between the two countries to avoid dooble taxation in addition to protection and encouragement of investments during the visit of Hungarian Foreign Trade Minister

Tamas Beck to Kuwait a few months ago.

Meaowhile, Oil and Mineral Resources Minister
Hisham Nazer of Saudi Arabia yesterday held out the
possibility of further "downstream" joint ventures in the
United States as well as in Europe and the Far East.

Nazer spoke at a business conference on Saudi-US relations, sponsored by New York University in co-opera-tion with the US-Arab Chamber of Commerce.

In November 1988, Saudi Arabia bought a 50 per cent interest in three American refineries owned by Texaco

Inc., and set up a joint venture with Texaco under the name

"There are others to follow Star," Nazer said.

Star imported virtually all of its 539 million barrels of oil per day from Saudi Arabia for its refining and distribution. or downstream operations.

Nazer said Saudi Arabia also looks at the US strategic

petroleum reserve as a possible outlet for its oil.

Bank conducts training programme

WITHIN the framework of its personnel training and development programme, the Commercial Bank of Kuwait recently organised two training courses for selected groups of employees. The first course which dealt

with credit analysis was attended by 22 middle management personnel from the credit area. The Bank's Training Centre in cooperation with the Corporate Banking Division prepared a programme for this three-week

There were three major objectives for the course - firstly to refresh trainees' general credit knowledge, asset conversion cycle, cash flow analysis and forecests; secondly to enable them to identify the basic issues and factors in order to reach a common understanding of unified credit proposal presentation for sound credit decisions; and thirdly to improve credit appraisal process in the Commercial Bank of Kuwait.

The programme which consisted of three phases tackled various issues such as qualititative and quantitive analysis and credit risk analysis. It also included practical training on credit proposal presentation. The course condcluded on 21st of February 1990 with an open discussion between the trainees and some members of the bank's senior management.



Ahmed Al Hamlan, assistant general manager, Treasury Division, making the opening speech.



A scene from the course

The second course which was offered by the Treasury Division in co-ordination with the Training Centre focussed on the rapid changes in the local and international money markets and the impact of political and economic changes on exchange rate fluctuations.

It also dealt with, selling of the bank's products and services in a highly competitive market.



Arab energy

neutralise the Arab oil role.



ties vital

KUWAIT, March 10, (Opecna): Abdul Aziz Al Wattari (above) deputy secretary general of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (Oapec), has unce again tracked for circuit to operation among Arab countries in the oil and energy sector. Al Wattari, a former Iraqi Oil

Minister, said Arab oil had not yet been able to play its true role in the economic development of the Arab world. He urged effective co-opera-tion among oil producing countries

on a regional level.

He said as far as possible. Arab countries should co-ordinate their efforts through specialised organisations, citing Oapec as an example.

Al Wattari was also quoted as having made estical poferance to the

ing made critical references to the OECD-sponsored, Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA), which he recalled was set op to

\$3 billion a year. Morrison's talks in the three Gulf countries are expected to touch on means of stabilising world oil prices.

Omanis not a member of Opec but it closely co-ordinates policy with the organisation.

For Sale

- Electric Stacher

Model S-12 Capacity - 1200kg. Height — 335 c.m. Model year — 1984

Call or contact Mr. Abu Jamai Tel. No: Between : 8.00 am to 12.00am & 4.00pm to 7.00pm

Kaifu holds top-level talks on US trade issues

TOKYO, March 10, (Reuter): Prime Minister Tosbiki Kaifu met his top advisers today 10 discuss how to resolve serious US-Japan trade disputes, but made little progress in devising a clear-

cut strategy.

Kaifu summoned the ministers for finance, trade and foreign affairs and urged all three to try to address barriers to trade ciled by the United States.

Difficulties will develop in Japan-US relations unless we make progress in drawing up an April mid-term report on struc-tural negotiations," Kaifu was quoted as saying by a government spokesman.

The unusual morning session in a Tokyo hotel highlighted the seriousness with which Tokyo is viewing the decline in bilateral trade relations.

"Trade friction has become a major issue and as foreign minister I believe we must solve the problems in order to stabilise Japan-US relations," Taro Nakayama, Minister for Foreign Affairs, told reporters after the

But Kabun Muto, the new Minister of Japan's powerful Ministry of International Trade and Industry, said in a televised interview that the group made no decisions.

We discussed problems within our respective ministries but there were no decisions made," he said.

Kaifu called the breakfast meeting before next week's visit by US Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher, who will meet the Prime Minister and

"We're carrying a caseload of (examples) as to what the Japanese can do to help open up their imports. We can talk with some specificity," Mosbacher said in Washington on Friday.

Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told reporters after today's meeting that "it will be difficult to make any decisions (on trade barriers) until the last minute."

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto also attended the

In talks with US President George Bush last weekend in California, Kaifu said Japan would make progress in addressing the "structural impediments" cited by Washing-"structural ton as barriers to trade.

American officials contend that such barriers contribute to Japan's annual \$50 billion trade surplus with the United States.

Currency rates

KUWAIT. March 10.(Kuna): Foliowing are the international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of

Kuwait today.				
	Buying	Selling		
US dollar	0.29275	0.29360		
Sterling	0.47293	0.47460		
DM `	0.17180	0.17240		
Sw. Fr	0,19374	0.19443		
F. Fr	0.050824	0.050998		
tt. lira	0.00023266	0.00023343		
Jap. yen	0.0019348	0.0019417		
Ban, din	0.77642	0.77888		
UAE Dh.	0.079692	0.079945		
S. rival	0.078045	0.078293		
Q. riyal	0.080381	0.080659		
O. riyal	0.76019	0.76279		

interest rates

KUWAIT. March 10. (Kuna): Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period Bid Offered

Exchange Rates

Indian rupce	17.260
Sri Lankan ruper	7.410
Pakistani rupee	13.820
Bangladesh taka	8.600
IJS dollar	29350
Pound sterling	47550
UAE dirham	07987
Deutsche mark	17265
Japanese yen	

Wall Street watch:

Recession fears fading on Wall Street

Economy gathers momentum

NEW YORK, March 10, (AP): Recession fears have been fading on Wall Street lately, helping the stock market to rally. But not all investors are huppy

to see those worries go.
As spring approaches in the financial world, the US economy apparently is gathering momentum again, resuming the expansion that has been running for nearly 7 1-2 years.
Analysts still have some major

reservations about the state of business activity. Interest rates are higher than many people might wish, and corporate profits remain in a slump.

Nevertheless, the view seems to be spreading that those misgivings will be alleviated as the year progresses by an increasingly healthy combination of growth and slackening inflation. That would presumably allow stock

prices to elimb substantially even before any marked improvement in corporate finances worked its way through to the bottom line. 'At this stage the United States is the

only developed country with a declining inflation rate," said John Connolly, an analyst at Dean Witter Reynolds Inc". While the US economy is troughing, others are peaking. Right now our fundamentals are

excellent - perhaps the best that can be found in the world." For others who look at the same picture from a less optimistic viewpoint, the prospect of a pickup in business conjures up memories of difficult. periods for investors in recent years.

Conceivably, they say, it could usher in a new bout of concerns before long about possible credit-tightening by the Federal Reserve, which has been waging a long-term campaign against inflation whenever the economy was strong enough to permit it.

"I expect to see more takers for the idea that the US economy is indeed growing - not growing rapidly enought to generate strong profits, but growing too rapidly to effect any improvement in inflation or interest rates," said Greg Smith at Prudential-

Bache Securities.
"I suspect the triumph of this view will create another decline in the market, and may perhaps create a buying opportunity sometime in the second. quarter. I anticipate a relatively difficult period marked by a paucity of brave and exciting new ideas." Undaunted by sueb warnings,

buyers took stock prices to their highest levels since early January in the past week. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials climbed 22.97 to 2,683.33. on top of a 96.17-point gain the week

The New York Stock Exchange index of all listed common stocks rose 1.21 to 186.18; the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market gained 5.74 to 436.76, and the American Stock Exchange market value index was up 5.03 at 361.15.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 157.73 million shares a day, against 161.60 million in previous week. If corporate profits were the gauge rather than overall economic output.

the US economy already would have lapsed into a certified recession. By most measures profits declined in the third and fourth quarters of last year, and they are expected to show another decline in the three-month

period through the end of March. "Most investors are resigned to weak earnings in the first half of 1990,"

observed Thomas Doerflinger at Pain ewebbet Inc. "The next surprise is likely to be that earnings fail to improve much in the second half of 1990."

A primary reason for this, Doerflin-

ger argues, is the recent rise of interes rates, which stands to act as a drag or growth and to increase companies interest costs at the expense of profits. "Of course," he adds, "rising US

rates partly reflect higher rates over "A significant risk for US corporate

profits is that these rate increases wil suppress economic growth overseas This would eliminate one of the fev remaining bright spots for the earning of US companies.

Economy shows signs of renewed strength

US jobless rate holds steady

NEW YORK, March 10, (UPI): The US economy showed some signs of renewed strength this week with a rebound in the automotive industry largely contributing to the creation of 372,000 new jobs in February, the

largest increase since June 1988.
The Labour Department reported Friday that the civilian jobless rate held steady at 5.3 per cent in February, for the ninth consecutive month, with an esumated 90,000 automotive industry workers called back to their factories.

An industry survey conducted by integrated Automotive Resources Inc. projected that the total US car output would rise in the second quarter to 1.76 million units, up from the 1.48 million units estimated for the first quarter.

The projected output was, however, 9.4 per cent lower than year-ago levels, and mostly reflected the strength of non-US car manufac-

While the big three — General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler Corp. — were all projecting production cuts in the April-June quarter, most Asian companies manufacturing cars in the United States were planning on stepping up production by an average 18.6 per cent to 345,185 cars. The much stronger-than-expected

February job report pushed the stock market down Friday. Analysts said the unexpected rise in jobs would probably mean interest rates will stay where they are for some time, as the Federal Reserve will not feel the need to lower them to pump up the economy.

The debate about the actual state

of the US economity remained open as the Commerce Department reported that factory orders plunged 5.4 per cent in January, the biggest decline since a 7 per cent dive in December 1974. Some analysts said the figures

indicated that a recent downturn in the economy has bottomed out, but the usually bullish US Chamber of Commerce warned, "things are getting worse quickly."

January's \$13.1 hillion drop in fac-

tory orders to \$227.7 billion followed a revised 0.4 per cent increase in December to \$240.7 billion. US consumers were delivered a mixed bag of good and bad news. The US Postal Service's board of

governors said it approved a postal rate increase that would raise the

Mohamed Al Fayed, co-owner of the department store Harrods, serves customers in the tood hall of the

shop. A British government report claimed the Egyptian Al Fayed brothers acted deceitfully in their

controversial takeover of the luxury store. (Reuter wirephoto)

Thatcher backs decision

price of a first-class stamp from 25 to 30 cents effective February 1991. If implemented, the 19 per cent rise would apply to all classes of mail and be the largest ever in postal service

Benzene-free "Nouvelle" Perrier mineral water promised to stage a comeback on the American gourmet's table by April, with its purity ensured by new quality control

The French company withdrew 160 million bottles from markets in 120 countries when benzene was detected in some samples last month. No sign of an immediate resolu-

tion to the Greyhound strike prompted federal regulators to invite union leaders to Washington in hopes of a possible settlement. The strike began March 2 when many of Greyhound's 9,000 union employees walked off the job after intense talks with the company failed to yield a new threeyear contract.

On the corporate front, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. reported Wednesday that US commercial banks posted disappointing fourth-quarter earnings of 52.7 billion, their fourth lowest performance since 1983.

Real estate portfolios were weak and bankers had to increase prov-isions to cover domestic credit losses,

But there were some good news for a number of US retailers who reported healthy sales gains for February, mainly on the strength of spring apparel that captivated shoppers during an unseasonably warm

The best showings were posted by speciality retailers including the Limited Inc. and the Gap Inc.

Troubles were far from over for the parent of two US retailing units, Federated Department Stores Inc. and Allied Stores Corp., which are under bankruptcy protection. Toronto-based Campeau Corp. said Thursday it was in default on \$705 million in loans after failing to reach a deal to defer more than \$5 million in interest payments to two major lenders, Olympia and York Develop-ments Ltd. and the Edward J. Debar-

Eastern Airlines, another com-pany operating under bankruptcy protection, Tuesday asked a court adge to evaluate past transactions between the carrier and its parent, Texas Air Corp.

Overseas investments in Turkey up

ANKARA, March 10, (Reuter): Foreigners invested \$708 million in Turkey in 1989, up 57 per cent from 1988's \$406 million, the State Planning Organisation "We will exceed \$1 billion in

actual foreign investment inflows this year," SPO foreign investment director fhrahim Cakir predicted to Reuters. In the early 1980s investment ran at a steady \$100-200 million a year. The figures represent direct foreign investments in new

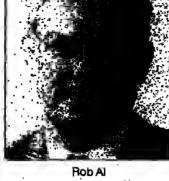
projects and expansions. More than half went into manufacturing, most of the rest to tourism, trade and banking.

Cakir said the investment figure did not include foreign

purchases on Istanbul's Stock Exchange, which he estimated at around \$100 million. At the end of 1989, Cakir said,

1,404 foreign firms were operating in Turkey compared with only 91 in 1979, before liberalisation policies transformed many sectors of the economy.

British firms led the way in 1989 with an 15.7 per cent share in the total actual foreign investments, followed by Switzerland's 11.5 per cent, West Germany's 8.6 percent and US's 6.4 percent.



Dutch travel industry delegation

IN the period from March 9-12, 1990, a delegation of eleven representatives of the Dutch tourist industry is to participate in a sales mission which has been organised by the Netherlands Board of Tourism (NBT), in close co-operation with KLM Royal Dutch Airlines.

The party is to be led by Rob Al the NBT's Middle East director. Al regards the sales mission's zest as being living proof of the value the Dutch tourist industry attaches to the Middle East - approximately 42,000 tourists per annum come from this market. Al believes that a number of

highlights are in store for 1990: This year there is plenty of interest in tourism, as it has been declared 'European year of Tourism.' There are activities in

svetnerlands added high-point of 1990 being the commemorative year of the artist Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890). The fact that Van Gogh died a hundred years ago is commemorated by means of exhibitions in Amsterdam and the Kroller Muller Museum." During the round trip through

the Middle East the Dutch delegation will be stopping over in Dubai (March 9-11), Abu Dhabi (March 11-13), Kuwait (March 13-15), Riyadh (March 15-18) and Jeddah (March 18-20). By means of workshops, s ales calls and more information meetings, the Dutch representatives wish to strengthen their ties with their connections in the Middle East and make new con-

Hind Lever Hind Cocoa

Floating hotels for Soviets

SINGAPORE, March 10, (AP): Two Singapore companies will jointly build a pair of floating botels for delivery to Moscow, it was reported today.

The Business Times daily

quoted Soviet Trade Representative A.N. Nazarov as saying Sembawang Holdings and Jurong Shipyard are teaming up with four Soviet companies to build and manage the hotels, which are destined for Moscow's

A REPRESENTATIVE of the

US income tax guidelines

US Internal Revenue Service will visit Kuwait again this year to give guidance and assistance to US taxpayers in filing their 1989 tax returns. She will be in Kuwait beginning Sunday, March 25 through Saturday, March 31. For further information please contact the American Embassy at telephone 2424151 ext. 263. You may also contact the IRS.

office at the US embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Mrs Vicki Hodes may be reached Saturday. through Wednesday, from 8.30 am till 12.00 noon. And 1:00 pm till 4.00 pm. Telephone (00966) (1) 488-3800 ext. 206.

The deduction for each exemption, that is for you, your spouse and each dependent has been increased to \$2,000 from \$1,950 for 1989. Remember! You must list the social security number of each dependent age 2 or older you claim on your 1989

Taxpayer assistance tour The 1989 standard deductions are Single \$3,100; married filling

jointly or qualifying widow(es \$5,200; married filing separatel \$2,600 and head of household \$4,550. There are different standard deductions in the instructions for individuals age 65 or older of blidd, and for individuals who

can be claimed as a dependent or someone else's return. All government checks including IRS refund check, are now valid for only one year and not valid for renewal reissuance If you have not received your 1988 tax refund you should contact the Riyadh IRS office to obtain a claim form. Checks issued prior to October 1, 1989.

are valid until-September 30

The tax rates remain the same as in 1988 15 per cent and 28 per cent. The foreign earned income exclusion remains \$70,000, IRA rules remain the same.

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UPI, Reuters file papers in photo exchange dispute quality of UPI's newspictures are "a smok-escreen for Reuter's efforts to invade the

company directors would not be in the public interest.

Thatcher has not commented on the affair except to say sbe supported Ridley's stance. Government sources said

The report by Department of Trade and Industry ins-

pectors said the Fayed brothers deliberately misrepresen-

ted their background and wealth when they bought House of Fraser for £615 million (\$1 billion) in 1985.

It claims they lied to shareholders and city regulators to enhance their bid during a fiercely-contested takeover battle with "Tiny" Rowland, head of the Lourbo trading conglomerate. Lourbo has threatened to take the Fayeds

the matter was now considered closed.

to court over the report's findings.

NEW YORK. March 10, (UPI): United Press International claimed in court papers filed this week the Reuters news agency used a photo-exchange agreement between the two companies as a "cover" up to encroach on UPI's market and put UP1 newspictures out of business.

LONDON, March 10, (Reuter): Prime Minister Margaret

Thatcher will not intervene in a row over an official report

that the Egyptian brothers who bought Harrods in 1985

Government sources said on Friday Thatcher fully backed her Trade and Industry Secretary Nicholas Ridley.

Ridley decided to take no action on the report, released on Wednesday, which branded Mohamed and Ali Fayed

as liars in their takeover of Harrod's parent, the House of

Fraser store group.

Ridley's announcement that the government would not

prosecute the brothers caused outrage in the opposition Labour Party and dissent in Conservative ranks.

Conservatives have attacked Ridley for failing to call the

used lies and misrepresentation to boost their bid.

They said the matter was now considered closed.

The British-based news agency, in response, called UPI's claims a "eonspiracy theory." Any US expansion plans by Reuters were permitted under the contract and were based on a belief UPI probably would go out of business. Reuters said in documents filed in US district court in

Reuters, claiming a deterioration in the volume and quality of UPI's newspictures, announced Feb 16 it was terminating the 5year-old contract through which UPI clients in the United States receive Reuters' photos from abroad and Reuters' clients outside the United States receive UPI domestic news photos.

Reuters then filed suit seeking to recover

what it elaimed was the additional cost of

supplementing UPI's domestic photo

service. UPI, in a counterclaim to the

Reuters suit, is seeking an injunction to prevent Reuters from breaching the 10year exchange agreement that went into effect in January 1985.

US district judge Peter Leisure issued an order Feb 27 temporarily restraining Reuters from stopping the flow of news photos to UPI clients as it did for four hours and five minutes Feb 16. A bearing was scheduled for Monday.

In court documents filed Tuesday to support its request for a preliminary injunction, UPI said internal Reuters memos it obtained show Reuters violated the co-operative agreement "by stealing UPI's staff and subscribers and denigrating uPI's newspicture service" in an effort to take over UPI's domestic market.

"It is evident that virtually from the creation of the UPI-Reuters partnership, Reuters began to contemplate causing and exploiting - rather than responding to -the "demise" of the UPI service." UPI

The Washington-based news agency said, "these internal memoranda disclose Reuters' naked bad faith.

Reuters, in court papers filed Friday opposing UPI's request for an injunction. said UPI distorted the meaning of its internal memos. The British news agency said it bad developed contingency plans for operating in the United States and cited a memo by a Reuters executive saying, "in our view, UPI's demise is almost certain."

"Reuters was planning for the day that UPI might suddenly stop feeding Reuters US pietures, not as part of a strategy to put UPI out of business," Reuters said. "Reuters never had a plan of any sort to drive UPI out of business," the Reuters filing said.

'UPI simply cannot run away from the fact that its well-documented financial troubles caused it to drastically curtail its picture operations and to function with far fewer competent photographers and adequately equipped picture bureaus." Reuters said.

"It strains credulity to believe that 300-400 subscribers dropped UPI's picture service because of the increasing quality of that service," Reuters said.

UPI said Reuters' elaims about the cribers, UPI said.

United States market." 'Reuters' executives concocted an elaborate "cover" for their invasion of the United States market — if questioned by

UPI, they would simply complain, as they

do in this court, that their expansion of business in the United States is the unfortunate but necessary consequence of UPI's shortfalls and inadequacies." UPI said. UPI cited a February 1989 internal memo by Reuters president Andre Villeneuve that said Reuters would try to maintain its relationship with UPI and that "we will seek to explain our expansion in US pictures by saying that it has been neces-sary to make up for deficiencies in UPI's

UPI contended Reuters' strategy to expand into the US market went well beyond a contingency plan. Reuters was developing its own electronic photo terminal called RNPT, which it planned to offer on a free trial basis to UPI subs-

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KPBC, KRP and Trico triumph

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Overland brush aside Kay

OVERLAND Transport Com-pany, KRP, KPBC and Trico international scored contrasting victories as the Kuwait Pinov Basketball League (KPBL) games continued at the Kheifan High School Gym on Friday.
Overland Transport Co. vs.

Kay & Associates

Overland Transport Co. registered their first win with a 86-69 decision over an undermanned Kay & Associates 5. Kay & Associates who had only 7 players found, it tough all the way as "Billy Ray" Navarro (Overland's, main man) went ипоррозеd. He finished with 26 game-high points and was ahly supported hy Martinez 15, Pineda 13, Ramalla 8, Birosalan and Villa 6 apiece. Kay & Associates playing minus team captain Alex Morales, Jojo Medrano. Teddy Lonoza and Albert Orozco was paced by Joselito "Atoy" Kai 21, Velayo "The Durable" had 14, Alvendia 13, Evangelists 12 and Marin 8, points.

The Mahuhay Best Player of the Game award was given for the second time around to Mr.
"Billy Ray" — "Hulk Hogan"
Navarro for successfully leading his team to their 17 points win over Kay & Associates.

KRP vs. Nissan Al Babtain Regency KRP-Kuwait Palace found out that Nissan Al Babtain was a hard nut to crack as they escaped with a hairline victory 85-84 over the latter.





Dr Dauday Tago, minister counsellor/consul general, and Bert Martin, lahour attache, of the Philippine Emhassy watch tha KPBL games.

Half-time score stood at 44-44 as Nissan's combination of Ahajero. De Los Reyes, Aquino. Detera and Espinosa matched the heroics of KRP's speedy Bolito & Osorio. The second half was no different than the first 20 minutes of the hallgame. It was close all throughout with neither team taking a clear advantage over the other. With less than 3 minutes left in regulation time Nissan took the driver's seat 79-78 hut this was short-lived as Speedy Bolito rose to the occasion and scored 3 consecutive baskets and a charity point to outsteady the Nissan 5. With the score at 85-81 and

time down to 38 seconds, Nissan's Espinosa converted on a 3 point attempt to bring the game to a cardiac finish. In the ensuing play Andal, KRP's Richard



Gomez was fouled & the KRP 5 made the mistake of taking the one on one free throw instead of waving the situation. Andal missed his first try and Nissan was able to recover the ball. KRP was lucky enough to win the ballgame as time expired with Nissan unable to make a clear attempt at their basket. Speedy Bolito led his team 26 followed by Matudio and Nardo 12 each, Osorio 11, Reodique 10, Sone 5 and Jumadiao 4. Nissan was paced by Abajero 26, Detera and Espinosa 14 a piece and De Log Reves 10 points. Speedy Bolito was named the Mahuhay Best

Third game: KPBC vs KDD KPBC closed out its Elimination Round schedules with a 10

Player of the Game.



Serrano, Navarro, Bolito and Reyes receive their MVP awards.

score was 100-90. In their 4th win in as many outings KPBC played listlessly against an undermanned opponent. The game was characterised by errors, as both teams displayed an array of fancy dribbling, blind passes and trick shots to the dismay of the basketball fans. When the final horn sounded, KPBC shot 100 and KDD managed to reach 90.

Top scorers for the winners vere Serrano "The Foreigner" 24, De La Cruz 23, Arganoza 14, the Macho Man from Adan-Castro 13, The Carnation Baby-Domingo 10 and The Alaska Baby-Lito Manuel 8. KDD was led by Gutierrez 26, Linganay 20, Pizarro 18 and Ramirez 14.

The Mabuhay Best Player of the Game was awarded for the 2nd time around to the Foreigner "Len Serrano" for his steady shooting all throughout the contest.

Trico International vs Al Ghanim Freight and Travel The last game of the day was the most crucial one as both

teams are going all out for a win that could advance them to the Championship Round. Trico International out-duelled Al Ghanim 91-83 to keep their championship bid alive. Trico's combinaton of Reyes, Atienza, Menes, Calaycay and Bahierra played well together against the Al Ghanim 5 of Velasco, Garcia, Dayao, Ragudon, & Galicia and led at half-time 47-40.

In the next 20 minutes of play,



basketball fans were treated to some serious action, as both teams battled to secure that most desired win that could advance them to the next round. When the smoke settled down Trico was on top by 8 points (91-83) and they were led by Reyes 23, Atienza 20, Menez 18, Babierra 14, Calaycay 9 and Vargas 5 points respectively. Al Ghanim in its valiant losing effort was led by Garcia 21, Dayao 19, Velasco 17 and

Dequilla 8 points.
The Mahuhay Best Player of the Game was awarded to Mat Reyes for his steady performance during the entire ballgame, top scoring with a game high of 23 points.

The "KPBL" winds up its Elimination Round schedules this coming Friday the March 16, 1990 with a series of very crucial matches that would determine who will join KPBC in The 4-team Single Round Robin Championship which starts on March 23, 1990. The schedules are as follows:

9:00 Al Ghanim vs. Nissan Al Babtain 10:30 EEI vs. Trico 12:00 KAI vs. KDD

1:30 KHC-Bayan vs Overland Transport Co. 3:00 EEI vs KRP 4:30 KDD vs Overland (if

required) "KPBL"-"Pizza Italia" All Star Game

In a related development the KPBL Secretariat announced that in co-operation with Pizza Italia/Arab Food Services Co. an All Star game Green-Red will be held on March 23, 1990, 5 pm at the Keifan High School Gym. This is being held to give special tribute to the players who have shown more than one shining moments in the on-going KPBL 1st Conference Basketball League. This was confirmed by the general manager of Pizza Italia Chawki E. Barakat who added that the following prizes shall be given away on the said match:

Champions trophy. 1st runner- up trophy.

Gold medals for players of the champion team. Silver medals for players of

1st runner-up, plaques for both Most Valuable Player:

Watch out for more All Star details this coming Wednesday and Thursday.

admiration society. "It's an honour being with him because what he did shows that he is a true champion. He took a great fighter, a knockout artist, and beat him to show that he was the

and he had a snotty nose," he said. Douglas acknowledge his apparel and a sinus problem. He returned Ali's com-

"It's an honour to be alongside this man who I have idolized my entire career," be





Klimova, Ponomarenko win

HALIFAX, Canada, March 10, (UPI): Soviet Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko held on to win their second straight
World Ice Dancing Championship last night, despite a heartrending, event-winning free
dance finale by Canadian expatriots Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay of France.

Another Soviet team, 1989 silver medallists Maia Usova and Alexander Zhulin, settled for the bronze medal, and Americans Susan Wynne and Joseph Druar were fourth - up one from last tear.

Klimova and Ponomarenko took their gold medal on the basis of their first-place finishes in the compulsory dances and the original set pattern dances. They were scored second-best in the free dance with their lovely and technically difficult interpretation of music from "My Fair Lady', hut the ranking from the programme was in some ways meaningless. They were simply the best of all the rest.

The sibling Duchesnays, who have bewildered judges and bent rules forcing a new, dramatic and interpretive style into the conservative sport during the past two years, were in a class by themselves.

Some members of the audience burst into tears at the end of their programme, which portrayed the struggles of two oppressed South Americans for freedom. The standing ovation from the sold-out crowd at the Halifax Metro Centre lasted more than three minutes.

The Duchesnays were scored sixth best when they introduced their wildly exotic junge dance at the 1988 Olympics and they moved up to take the bronze medal at the 1989 Paris worlds. But the judges could resist the new look no longer last night.

Five of the nine gave the Duchesnays perfect 6.0 scores for artistic expression, and though their technical marks were somewhat lower, the dramatic couple took the firstplace ordinals for the event by a 5-4 vote.

Earlier Friday, a mental error by Jill Trenary in the short programme event made the female event a four-way battle rather than the expected duel between the Americans and defending titlist Midori Ito of Japan.

Trenary doubled ont of a necessary triple jump and was scored fifth in the round. That finish, coupled with Ito's first place, place both Soviet Natalia Lebedeva and American Holly Cook in position to win the gold medal during the women's finals this evening.



Ponomarenko and Klimova during the long programme: (Reuter wirephoto)



Isabelle and Paul in action in the championships on Friday. (Reuter wirephoto) .

Prosecutors to let off Strawberry

LOS ANGELES, March 10, (Reuter): New York Mets temperamental outfielder Darryl Strawberry will not have to face charges over an incident six weeks ago in which he threatened his wife with a gun, prosecutors

said yesterday. City attorney James Hahn said charges would not be filed mainly because Strawberry was undergoing treatment for alco-holism, which he said was "at the root of the family's problems."
Strawberry, who has spent the

last month in an alcohol rehabilitation clinic in Los Angeles, was arrested on January 26 at this home in the Los Angeles suhurb of Encino after his wife called the police.

Lisa Strawberry told police her husband had slapped her and she had retaliated hy hitting him with an iron rod. He had then taken out a gun and threatened her with it. Although his wife showed no

signs of injury Strawberry, who was jailed briefly before posting \$12,000 bail, suffered bruises on his ribcage and wrist, police said. Lisa Strawberry later signed a statement saying she did want to press charges.

City prossecutors, who could have filed criminal charges, met the 27-year-old outfielder for an hour last week when he told them frankly about the incident and about his dependency on alcohol, Hahn told a news briefing.

"He has now completed the initial step of his recovery programme. Therefore we do not intend to file misdemeanour spousal battery charges", he

Under an agreement with prosecutors, Strawberry will suhmit written progress reports every two weeks for the next three months. He will continue to undergo alcohol counselling.

The Strawberrys' marriage has been stormy from the start. Shortly after their wedding on January 5, 1987, Lisa filed assault charges accusing Straw-berry of hreaking her nose. She

They were reconciled after a year, reuniting the baseball star with his two children. Darryl and

later filed for separation.

'Buster tops now, Ali's best for all time convened a genuine meeting of a mutual-West Virginia and arranged for Douglas to visit this town despite hundreds of other requests for personal appearances. Ali,

HUNTINGTON, West Virginia, March 10, (AP): Who's greatest is debatable, that you can see, it's either Buster Douglas, or Muhammed Ali.

The answer's found here, in this little rhyme, Buster's tops for now, Ali's best for Three years ago James "Buster" Douglas,

a little-known boxer, was an Ali fan and posed in Atlanta for a picture with his idol during one of the longtime champ's personal appearances.

Yesterday, a month after knocking out
Mike Tyson to become heavyweight champion of the world, Douglas shared centre stage with Ali, whose love of rhyme is legendary in the boxing world.

something I've been waiting for," Douglas said. "I have been truly blessed.

John Johnson, Douglas' manager, is from

"To sit down with Muhammad Ali was

already booked for an appearance at a Golden Gloves youth boxing tournament here. was the reason. "What happened here is what it's all about. We went to this man's suite upstairs, the door opened and he hugged him. Part of

our dream was to bave this man love and respect us," Johnson said, looking at Ali. Ali, slowed hy Parkinson's disease but ever-quick on wit, painted his own scenario of winning back the heavyweight crown,

even at age 48. Douglas would beat Holyfield, former champion George Foreman would beat Douglas and Ali would beat Foreman, Ali

Douglas, 29, and others laughed until Ali put up his dukes and said: "He's surprised, hut it's my avenue. I can still move." At a press conference afterward, both

real knockout artist," Ali said of Douglas. **Problem**

He also remembered meeting Douglas in He was wearing blue jeans and red shirt,

Johnson and Ali pointed to Douglas when asked who was the greatest boxer

"He's the greatest now," Ali said, "I'm the greatest of all time.

Berger fastest in opening US Grand Prix practice

PHOENIX. Ariz., March 10, (Reuter): Austrian Gerhard Berger marked his first competitive appearance in a McLaren yesterday by surviving a fierce late challenge from team-mate Ayrton Senna to claim provisional pole position for tomorrow's US Grand Prix motor race.

Berger, overhauling the excellent times set earlier by Italian Pierluigi Martini in a Minardi, clocked a best time of one minute and 28,664 seconds on the demanding Phoenix street

His time was nearly 1.5 seconds inside Senna's pole time for the track last June.

Senna, who appeared to force Berger off the circuit and into a run-off area in the closing minutes, finished fifth-quickest at the end of a crash-marred session behind three Pirelli-clad runners sandwiched between the two McLarens, each running on Goodyear tyres.

Martini, fellow-Italian Andrea de Cesaris in a Dallara and Frenchman Jean Alesi in a Tyrrell were second, third and fourth-quickest after a day dominated by the interruptions caused hy spins and crashes.

After the morning free session was halted four times, it was a relief that the afternoon's qualifying session was halted only once — when Frenchman



Prost (left) leaos Senna around a turn during the practice. (Reutar wirephote)

Phillipe Alliot went off in his Ligier - and that no one was injured.

Both Ferrari drivers, world champion Alain Prost of France and Nigel Mansell of Britain, endured disappointments.

Mansell spent much of the day in the pits with various engine and gearhox problems while Prost was never able to compete on the pace until the final minutes of the afternoon session.
Brazilian Nelson Piquet, making his first appearance in a Ben-

etton. finished sixth quickest. Mansell, who had arrived in Phoenix full of optimism after a

husy off-season of testing the new Ferrari. was hitterly disap-

pointed with his time. Asked what caused him to spend so much time in the pits, he said: "Everything — the engines, the gearhox, the lot."

On a cool and cloudy day, the temperatures were more than 20 degrees centigrade cooler than they had been here last year and this clearly contributed to the improved lap times set hy the

Martini set the early quickest time and was only briefly over-hauled by Alesi before Berger clocked his fast lap with five minutes of the session remaining.

Berger said: "I got a good elean lap — not a super quick one. On this sort of circuit it's

often the case that you go quicker

if you drive more precisely. The chassis set-up is not perfect, nearly there." Senna said: "This morning, we had some electrical problems with the race car, so we changed the cockpit computer, but the engine was still misfiring slightly

this afternoon.
"I came in and changed a few things, but then the engine began making a mechanical noise and lost power. Chassis set-up is not right or wrong—we will improve

Though immensely popular world-wide Formula One motor racing has yet to catch fire in

Promoters yesterday refused to divulge attendance figures and although one official called tieket sales brisk, nearly empty grandstands indicated that Grand Prix racing has so far failed to capture the imagination of Phoenix sports fans.

"We've been working like crazy to make it an event," spokeswoman Diane Lane said of the US stop on the 16-race calendar.

Phoenix is hosting the Grand Prix to sparse attendance for the second year after several success-

ful years in Detroit.

Fan enthusiasm was high for the event in Detroit, which often drew more than 200,000 spectators over three days. But drivers detested the dangerous street circuit and when city officials failed to promise chan-ges demanded by International Motor Sport Federation officials, the event was moved to the desert southwest.

Phoenix has a contract to stage the race through 1993 and city spokesman Mark Hughes said there was no intention of aban-

doning the event. Former three times world drivers' champion Jackie Stewart confirmed yesterday that he was involved in a minor road accident in Phoenix earlier

Siewart, in Phoenix for tomorrow's motor race, said he collided with another car as he changed lanes on Wednesday.

The two cars touched bumpers without causing any serious damage and nobody was hurt. Stewart admitted: "It was my fault. I flagged the other driver down and apologised."

Raiders may move back to Oakland OAKLAND, California, March 10,

(AP): The owner of the NFL's Raiders is keeping this city in limbo about whether he'll move the reason back here, where it started, from Los

back here, where it started, from 1.05
Angeles.
Davis, faced with a put up-or-stutup deadline imposed by local government officials, did neither yesterday.
He called two hours before the
deadline and asked to postpone his
decision until Monday.
Despite the lastest delay-in the 14month-long negotiations, officials
viewed it as anything but a sethack.
"My own gut feeling, I'm inclined
to think they're coming, inayor
Lionel Wilson said.
The city council and Alameda
County supervisors are scheduled to

County supervisors are scheduled to vote Monday night on whether to approve Oakland's \$602-million offer to lure the NFL team back from Los Angeles. The Raiders left after the 1981 season in a dispute over stadium.

There is growing concern among local officials and citizens that residents might end up footing the bill for extra stadium renovation costs or subsidies if the Raiders attendance isn't high enough.

A majooty of supervisors are reported to be leaning in favour of the offer, but there is no clear consersus on the nine-member council.

Whether or not the deal with approval, the Raiders likely will remain in Los Angeles for at least ope more season while the Oakland Coliseum is renovated and lugary boxes are added to meet Davis' den

Hopes fade for Lewis-Johnson showdown this year

RALEIGH, N.C., March 10. (Reuter): Time is running out for a 100 metres showdown this year between world record holder and Olympic champion Carl Lewis and diseraced Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson, Lewis business manager said

If it's going to come, it's got to

come in the next three weeks so we can begin drug testing and other things."

Joe Douglas told Reuters by telephone from his office in Santa Monica, California.

Douglas said the Lewis camp had received what he termed "responsible offers" of more than \$1 million for each runner from Spanish promoters

in Seville and Barcelona and that he had also talked to hotels in the Las Vegas area.

But he stressed that no negotiations could take place until Canadian officials made a decision on the status of Johnson, who was disqualified for using steroids after winning the 100 metres gold medal at the 1988 Seoul

A Canadian judicial inquiry into the use of drugs in sport is expected to issue a report within the next month that may include recommendations on Johnson's reinstatement.

The Canadian government has banned the Jamaican-born Johnson for life, but the decision is expected to be reviewed after the report is issued. The International Amateur Athletic Federation barred him for two years

after the Olympics. Lewis, who was runnerup at the Olympics, inherited the gold medal and later became world record holder

by default when the IAAF stripped

Johnson of his 1987 mark.

Douglas said Johnson's represen-tatives had told him they could not discuss a race until the Canadian han was resolved.

He said promoters in Barcelona and Seville had indicated they would

be willing to offer the athletes more

than \$1 million each to compete in a .

100 metres race, which would include several other sprinters.

"If we can raise the money, and that is a big if, I think the race will come about," Douglas said.

But so l'ar he had not received offers of a firm financial package or a site that were totally acceptable, he said.

Ballesteros shrugs off illness to shoot 65

PALMA, Majorca, March 10. (Reuter): Sevvy Ballesteros shrugged off illness to shoot a seven-under-par 65 and trail halfway pacemaker Magnus Persson by one shot in the Balearic Open at Son Vida yesterday.

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Persson, who is seeking his first European victory, also had a 65 for a 36-hole aggregate of 130. Ballesteros, who is taking antibiotics to combat flu and spent 20 hours in bed at his hotel before his second round, would have tied for the lead hut for

three-putting the short 16th. . Fellow Spaniard Juan Ouiros shot 64 for third place on 132 and Australian Rodger Davis was also round in a best of the day 64 to tie Swede Jesper Parnevik (68) for fourth place on 134.

Ballesteros, who became Europe's first £2 million (\$3.22 million) prize money winner simply by qualifying for the last two rounds, had eight birdies.

But after completing his round he said: "I've played with a high temperature and a fever and I don't know if I can finish the tournament.

"I'm making a great effort because it is Spain and my company's event but I am not feeling

In Las Vegas, Parti Rizzo birdied four of her last five holes yesterday to shoot a 66 yesterday and take the first-round lead inthe inaugurai \$400,000 Desert Inn International women's golf. tournament.

Rizzo's six-under-par round over the 6,285-yard Desert In course gave her a two-stroke lead over Danielle Ammaccapane, Kate Rogerson and Canadian Rookie Gail Anderson-Graham. Rizzo made two birdies on the front side before getting really

birdie putts on the front side," said Rizzo. "I guess I made up for the missed putts on the back

And in Coral Springs second-year player Joel Edwards fired a three-under-par 69 yesterday to take the lead at the halfway point of the million-dollar PGA Classic golf tournament with a 36-hole total of four--under-par 140.

Edwards, whose only top 10 finish in his hrief career came earlier this year in Tucson, used a streak of five hirdies in six holes to assume the lead in the chase for .

the top prize of \$180,000. One shot back was first-round leader John Huston, who posted a 73 yesterday. Tom Watson, who fired a 69, JC Snead and Mark Brooks were another stroke behind at 142. Edwards, a 28-year-old

Texan, was one-over 37 on his outward nine over the windy 7,037-yard Tournament Players Club at Eagle Trace, hut sank short birdie putts at numbers 10 and 11 and added 20-footers at 12 and 14 before finishing his birdie barrage with a 15-footers at 12 and 14 before finishing his birdie barrage with a 15-footer at

"I got on a roll on the back nine," he said.

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Aussies outlast Kiwis New Zealand reach final

AUCKLAND, March 10, (Reuter): Australia beat New Zealand with a superior run rate at Auckland's Eden Park today. in a rain-shortened last preliminary round match of a triangular

one-day series with India. Australia made 239 for six off 47 overs after being put in to bat. Rain interrupted both innings twice before finally bringing the game to a premature close with New Zealand 167 for two from 34.5 overs.

New Zealand will meet Australia in the series final in Auckland tomorrow, after achieving a better net rnn rate than India in the preliminary matches. New Zealand and India both finished with one win from four games, while Australia had four wins.

New Zealand's target had been adjusted to 204 off 40 overs after their innings was interrupted by rain with the score at 115 for one in the 25th over.

Martin Crowe, who combined with captain John Wright for a 99-run opening stand, retired hurt with a thigh muscle injury. He is in doubt for tomorrow's final.

Crowe made 51, while Wright

was earlier bowled by off-spinner Peter Taylor for 48. Fast bowler Carl Rackemann removed Mark Greatbatch

immediately on the resumption of play. The New Zealanders played on in fading light and Jorgensen stuns Rasmussen

JANNICK JORGENSEN upset

Bjarne Rasmussen in a tennis

tournament being held at the

Rasmussen, who won the men sangles last year in the tour-

ney being organized by the Dan-

ish Club for its members, found

young Jorgensen in no mood to

lose the match although the first

set was close. Jorgensen finally

According to one of the organ-

izers, Carsten Buus, the qualify-

ing rounds have almost been

completed. Buus added that this

year there have been a number of

Marianne Weinrauch won the

took the match 7-62-66-1.

closely fought matches.

Gazelle Club.



Dean Jones: scored 59 runs

Andrew Jones and Ken Rutherford added 50 runs off 61 halls in an unbeaten stand, hut New Zealand were 12 runs behind Australia's scoring rate when the game was abandoned in heavy rain in the 35th over.

Top-order hatsman Dean Jones, back in the side after sit-

ladies beginners group when she beat Bente Rathjen 7-4. In this

group only one set of seven

games is being played as the

organizers felt that it was more important for the members to

play tennis than to show their

other groups will be held on

Results

Beginners, Iadies: Bente Rathjen-Birgit Mortensen 7-4; Bente Rathjen-Susse Licht 7-2; Marianne Weinrauch-Sausse Licht 7-2; Marianne Weinrauch-Bente Rathjen 7-4. Winner: Marianne Weinrauch

winner; merianne weimauen Beginners, men. Group I: Jorgen Rathjen-Lars Johannesen 7-3; Jorge Rathjen-Henrik Licht 7-0; Lars Johannesen-Kaj Mortensen 7-6; Henrik Licht-Kaj Mortensen 3-7; Jorgen Rathjen-Kaj Mortensen 7-1; Winner; Jorgen

The semifinals and finals in the

tennis skills.

March 16.

ting out the previous game against India, carried Australia towards a large total with a typically brisk 59 off 42 balls, including eight fours and a six. All rounder Simon O'Donnell

took over, after Jones was caught and bowled by a diving Richard Hadlee. O'Donnell dominated a

Rathjen
Beginners, men, Group 2: Jacob HansenHelmuth Nielsen 7-1; Jacob Hansen-Atlan
Beck 7-4; Helmuth Nielsen-Henrik Overganrd 5-7; Allan Beck-Henrik Overgaard 3-7;
Jacob Hansen-Henrik Overgaard 7-4. Winsee Jacob Hansen.

Jacob Hansen-Henrik Overgaard 7-4. Win-ner: Jacob Hansen.
Skilled ladies/men, Group I: Tuki Arneri-Jorn Risager 4-6. (-4. 3-6; Mads Mogensen-Jorn Risager 4-6. (-2. 6-2; Mads Mogensen-Kirsten Lillelund 3-6. (-1) Serarch; Kirsten Lillelund-Tuki Arneri 6-0. (-0): Winner: Kir-ten Lillelund-Tuki Arneri 6-0. (-0): Winner: Kir-

sten Lillelund.
Skilled ladies/men, Group 2. Henrik Jorgensen-Marianne Rasmussen 6-3, 6-4; Curt Halling-Henrik Jorgensen 3-6, 3-6; Curt Halling-Marianne Rasmussen 1-6, 6-3, 2-6; Henrik Jorgensen-Maj 'Britt Buus 6-3, 6-1. Winner: Henrik Jorgensen.
"Professionals", Group 1. Carsten Buus-Chahan Fattal 6-3, 6-1; Carsten Buus-Mogens Weinrauch 6-4, 6-1; Niels Mogensen-Mogens Weinrauch 6-3, 6-2.
"Professionals", Group 2 Sierne Rasmus-

66-run fifth-wicket stand with Steve Waugh, making 52 runs off 51 balls, including two fours and two sixes, before being run out hy Greatbatch.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA: M. Taylor c Larsen b Thomson..... 17 G Marsh c Jones b Sneddan 6 Waugh c Smith b Sneddan 36 D'Donnall run out..... Healy not out ... Taylor not out......

Did not bat: G. Campball, C. Rackamann and M. Hughes. Fall of wickets 1-122-61 3-854-118

Bowling: Hadlee 10-1-40-1 (1-nb. w-3), Sneddan 9-1-45-2 (w-1), Morr-ison 9-1-39-1 (w-1), Thomson 8-0-60-(w-1). Larsen 10-0-45-0 (w-1], Ruth-

NEW ZEALAND: J. Wnght b P. Taylor M. Crowe retired hurt.... A. Jones not out ... M Greatbatch c Healy b Rackamann K. Rutherford not out ... Extras (lb-3 nb-1 w-9].... Total (for two wickets)

erford 1-0-5-0.

in 34.S overs) Fatl of wickets: 1-99 2-11S. Did not bet S. Thomson, G. Larsen, I. Smith, R. Hadlee, M. Sneddan, D

Bowling: Hughes 4-0-28-0 (w-6]. Campbell, 7 S-0-37-0 (w-1 nb-1), O'Donnell 6-0-35-0 (w-1), Rack-emann 10-0-37-1 (w-1), P Taylor7-0-27-1.

Mortensen upset

REYKJAVIK, March 10, (Reuter): Danish international chess master Erling Mortensen caused an upset by beating highly ranked Soviet grand-master Vladimir Tukmakov in the first round of a team competition

yesterday.
But the Soviet learn fought back to record a narrow victory over the Nordic team and share the lead in the four-way contest with Britain, which has a strong record in chess team

United States and the Nordic team both have 4-t/2 points.

Britain rallied after falling two
games behind against the United

States, but victories by grandmasters Michael Adams and David Norwood helped complete a turnaround Each team plays the others twice,

for a total six rounds.

Dumlao and Vendiola win easily

THE third round matches of the 7round Swiss system tournament, organised by the Filipino Chess Cluh in Kuwait "Filcheck", were held on Friday, at the new Kabayan Restaurant.

In Group A, favourite Niel Dumlao and little known Ingy Vendiola scored convincing victories over veteran Edwin Borigas and last year's active chess champion Nanding Policarpio respecuvely. They now lead the group with 3-straight wins and will be playing against each other on Friday, March 16.

The day also saw the other pretournament favourites going down in defeat. Thony Monreal was outwitted by Ali Mca-ayan in 52 moves of a Giucco Piano variation while Rading Moje Mostrales is back in form by defeating Sammy Aurellano in 27 moves of a Sicilian defence. Rolly Boado and Rey Mangornong hroke into the scoring column with half points each. Arnel Matutino, slowly showing his true form, beat neat newcomer Rey Cortez in 38 moves of a king's Indian defence.

The longest game so far is the match between Danilo Calasin and Ver Farrales with the latter finally winning after 101 moves of an English defence.

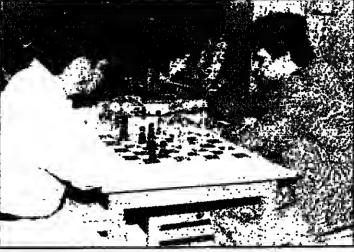
In Group B. veteran Gil Opiana Jr registered his third straight win at the expense of newcomer Alex Espedilla 10 take solo lead in group B standing. The much-improved Stanley Sawit defeated Mauro Burlat in 71 moves of a queen's Indian to stay in contention with 2-1/2 points together with Dads Pates and Jun Alejandro who drew their games. Other third round winners are Diony Bartolome, Mel Espinosa, Ahmad Hussain, Robert Vargas, Bernard de los Reyes and Fred Marasigan.

The champion and the three runners-up of both groups will each receive gifts from Adawliah Electronics, distributor of Kasparov. Chess Computers and Seven-Up Bottling Company and a tro-phy donated by Trico (No-Kilo) International,

As per tournament rules, parucipants who have defaulted two consecutive marches are considered withdrawn from the rest of the games. Defaulting time is 30 minutes from official time schedule.

The fourth round of the first rated chess tournament will be played as scheduled on Friday, March 16 at the new Kabayan Res-

Meanwhile, Filcheck President



Moie (left) and Aurellano plan their moves.



Filcheck president Edward Racaza (centre) and other members watch Mostrales (left) and Ali Maca-Ayan play their game.

Edward Racaza have announced that preparation is on the way for the induction of the club's first set of officers which will coincide with the awarding ceremony of the ongoing tournament. All members, including non-playing, are requested to get in touch with the President for details. Fourth round schedule Friday, March 16, 1990

Group B (9.00 am) — W vs. B: 8-17, 2-16, 6-3, 9-5, 15-19, 13-1, 14-4,

20-18, 7-Byc. Group A (12.00 noon) — W vs. B: 11-3, 9-7, 8-19, 18-1, 14-15, 2-5, 4-

16, 13-17, 12-Bye. Results after third round Group B: 1. Mauro Burlat I point, 2. Dads Pates 2.5, 3. Diony Bartolome 2, 4. Mel Espinosa 1, 5. Hussain Ahmad 2, 6. Robert Vargas 2, 7. Jun Emutan 0, 8. Gil Opiana Jr. 3, 9. Bernard de los Reyes 2, 10. Nilo Magtangoh — withdrawn, 11. Jigs Acodisen —

withdrawn, 12. Nonoy Caro withdrawn, 13. Dedi Herras 1, 14. Silver Salvado I, 15. Rolly Mercado 1.5, 16. Stanley Sawii 2.5, 17. Jun Alejandro 2.5, 18. Bamra Bucay 0, 19. Alex Espedilla 2, 20. Fred Marasigan 1, 21. Vic Corpuz — withdrawn, 22. Robert Daiz withdrawn.

Group A: 1. Tony Monreal 1.5 points, 2. Sammy Aurellano 1, 3. Niel Dumlao 3, 4. Jess Berguen 1, 5. Romy Pagaduan 1, 5. Romy Pagaduan 1, 6. Chito Barrios withdrawn, 7. Rene Mostrales 2, 8. Ali Maca-ayan 2, 9. Ariel Martinez 2. 10. Ramon Cortado — withdr awn, 11. Ingemar Vendiola 3, 12, Rolly Boado 0.5, 13. Rading Moje 1, 14. Nanding Policarpio 1.5, 16. Danilo Calasin I, 17, Rey Mangor-nong 0.5, 18. Edwin Borigas 2, 19. Ver Farrales 2, 20. Romy Velayo — withdrawn, 21. Wahab Alameda — withdrawn, 22. Rey

Cortez - withdrawn.



Becker (left) and Edberg: reach Champions Cup semifinals

sen-Chaban Fattal 2-6, 2-6; Niels MogensenMogens Weinrauch 6-3, 6-2. "Professionals". Group 2: Riarne Rasmussen-Christian Rulow 2-6, 6-1, 6-1; Bjarne Rasmussen-Jannick Jorgensen 6-7, 6-2, 1-6; Kaj Bertelsen-Jannick Jorgensen 6-7, 6-2, 1-6; Kaj Bertelsen-Jannick Jorgensen 6-6, 2-6; Christian Bulow-Jannick Jorgensen 7-5, 4-6, 0-6; Rijarne Rasmussen-Kaj Bertelsen 6-4, 6-4; Winner Jannick Jorgensen Double, Group 1: Janick Jorgensen Marianne Weinrauch-Jorn Risager/Lars Johannesen 7-5, 6-2; Jannick Jorgensen Marianne Weinrauch-Marianne Rasmussen:Henrik Overgaard 6-4, 6-1; Marianna Rasmusseo, Heorik Overgaard-Jorn Risager/Lars Johannesen 3-6, 6-7. Winner: Jannick Jorgensen/Marianne Weinrauch. Double, Group 2: Bjarre Rasmussen/ Allan Beck-Tuki Arneri/Lise Lotte Hertz 6-4, 6-4, 6-4, 6-8, Bertelsen/Kaj Mortensen-Tuki Arneri, Lise Lotte Hertz 5-7, 1-6; Rjarne Rasmussen/Alan Beck-Kaj Bertelsen/Kaj Mortensen-Ad-6, 6-7, 6-4, Winner: Bjarne Rasmussen/Alan Beck-Kaj Bertelsen/Kaj Mortensen-Alan BeckDouble, Group 3. Mogens Weinrauch: Beute Rathjen-Helmoth Nielsen/Maj Britt Buus 6-3, 6-3; Mogens Weinrauch: Beute Rathjen-Helmoth Nielsen/Maj Britt Buus 6-3, 6-3; Mogens Weinrauch: Beute Rathjen-Helmoth Nielsen/Maj Britt Buus 6-3, 6-3; Mogensen-Loh-Bente Rathjen-Jacob Hansen Mads Mogensen-2-6, 2-6. Double, Group 4: Susse Licht-Henrik Jorgensen-Curt-Halling, Henrik Licht-6-0, 3-6, 6-1; Susse Licht-Henrik Jorgensen-Curt-Halling Henrik Licht-6-0, Capriati tames Sukova for semifinals

Jorgansen (left) and Rasmussen in action.



- Capriati; tc. nee! Gildemelster

BOCA RATON, Florida, March 10, (Reuter): Jennifer Capriati, the supremely confident 13-year-old American, surprised even herself by beating Helena Sukova in straight sets yesterday to reach the semifinals of the \$350,000 Florida women's tennis tournament. Capriati, playing in her first

professional tournament, hlasted the fourth-seeded Sukova, who is ranked 10th in the world. 6-16-4. "I'm very excited." Capriati

said after the match, which was interrupted by rain for half an hour. "I didn't expect to get to the semis. I thought I'd just come in and play my best."

The victory moved Capriati into a semifinals match against Laura Gildemeister of Peru, who ousted fifth-seeded Czechoslovak Jana Novotna 3-6 6-3 6-3 at the Polo Club.

Top seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina eliminated South African Dinky van Rensburg 6-2 7-6 to advance to a semifinals match against third-seeded American Mary Joe Fernandez who crushed Amanda Coetzer of South Africa 6-0 6-1.

The first point of the match set the stage for Capriau's fourth professional win without defeat. Without hesitation, she fired in an ace—a bad omen for Sukova.

Capriati went head 5-0 before Sukova came up with four aces of her own to win her first and only game of the set.
"That was probably my best

match, especially the first set." Capriati said. "I just got more and more confident." With Capriati trailing 4-3 in the second set, a light rain suspended play. When the match resumed, Capriati snatched

three straight games to complete her victory. "I just couldn't pick up the pressure on her after the rain delay," Sukova said.

After taking the first set, Novotna just could not keep up with Gildemeister, who dominated from the baseline and never let the Czechoslovak get into her usual serve-and-volley game.

"She was hitting winners no matter what the score was." said Novotna. "She wasn't missing any shots and that made it difficult for me to approach the

Becker, Edberg sail through

INDIAN WELLS, Calif., March 10, (Reuter): Boris Becker, the top seed in the million-dollar Champions Cup tennis tournament, exacted a measure of revenge yesterday when he defeated Jav Berger 6-1 6-2 to reach the semifinals. Berger, the eighth-seeded American, had inflicted a 6-1 6-1 defeat on Becker in this tournament a year ago. Becker returned the favour, and nearly by the identical score.

Second seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden also wasted little time in beating his unseeded countryman Jan Gunnarsson 6-26-1 in their quarter-final American Andre Agassi, seeded six, had a bit more trouble with 14th-seeded Spaniard Emilio Sanchez, winning 6-1, 7-6. One favourite fell as American Aaron Krickstein,

the fourth seed, was upset 6-27-6 hy compatriot Jim Courier, a player with an even more powerful fore-

In today's semifinals, Becker was to play Agassi and Edberg was to meet Courier. Becker stormed to a 5-0 lead against Berger before

the American won his only game of the opening set. In the second set, Becker's concentration wavered when he dropped his own serve to see his lead cut to But after that, Becker shut the door and reached match point at 3-2 with an ace before claiming victory when Berger netted a return.

"I knew I had to play a little bit better than 1 did before," Becker said. "I learned a lesson from last year and my preparation is now different."

Becker said his preparation included "not playing 18 holes of golf the day before. That was too much. This year I made sure to come and play tennis." Kriekstein found himself playing a mirror of his

own game as he traded fierce forehands, but Courier's shots were harder and more punishing and Krickstein had no answer.

Krickstein had chances to take the second when he reached set point twice at 5-4. But Courier, ranked 22, saved both with forehands. Krickstein saved a match point at 5-6 with a forehand winner but collapsed under a barrage of Courier groundstrokes in the tiebreaker, losing it 7-2.

Agassi cruised through the first set against Sanehez, but the Spaniard switched tactics in the second set and played a more aggressive net game and the players traded four service breaks to reach 6-6 and the tiebreaker.

Agassi led all the way in the tiebreak, winning it 7when Sanchez lohbed deep off an Agassi smash. "I'm probahly playing now as good as I've ever played," Agassi said.

PBAK tourney starting Friday

THE Philippine Bowling Association in Kuwait (PBAK) is organising another tournament, the 1st Al Rashed Freight Open howling tournament, which will be held at the Holiday Inn bowling lanes on Friday, March 16, to March 30.

The first set of bowlers are scheduled to play on March 16 at 1.00 pm and the second set will follow at 4.00 pm.

The elimination round will go on till March 27 with games during week days (except Wednesdays and Thursdays) starting at 6.00 pm. There will be a men's and women's division and each bowler can play a maximum of 3 tries in the elimination round which will consist of a four game series.

Trophies and gifts await the winner of this tournament, sponsored by Al Rashed Freight.

For more details, consult the bulletin board at the venue or any of the tournament committee led by Jupai Rivera and Bennie Guiamoy. All interested parties can register at the Holiday Inn bowling lanes.
The PBAK also would like to

ing 1D cards to renew them so as to avail of all the privileges, especially those accorded at the bowling lanes. For more information contact

remind all members with expir-

Joio Medrano and Bhe Guiamoy the PBAK VP's for membership.

Charges dropped

DAVENPORT, Iowa, March 10, (AP): Authorities have dropped an assault charge against middleweight champion Michael Nunn in connection with a street hrawl. Nunn, the International Boxing

Federation champion, was arrested Oct I and charged with simple assault after the brawl, in which his mother also was arrested.

Davenport police were called to a neighbourhood last Oct 1 on a report

that Nunn and several other men were arguing. Soon, 20 people were fighting with each other and a dozen

SPORTSRILLERS

Cricket Test

GEORGETOWN, March 10, (Reuter): Play was abandoned without a ball being bowled on the first day of the second cricket Test bet-ween West Indies and England today after torrential rain had flooded the ground. By the scheduled start of play rain was still falling with some parts of the Bourda Ground under 20 centimetres of water.

Lee triumphs

TAEJON CITY, South Korea, March 10, (Reuter): South Korean Lee Yul-Woo outpointed holder Jesus Rojas of Venezuela to win the World Boxing Association flyweight crown today. It was the Venezuelan's first defence of the title he won by beating Colombia's Fidel Bassa on points on Sept 30 last year and only his second defeat in 21 professional

NBA games NEW YORK, March 10, (Reuter): Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played: Atlanta 107 Seattle 9 115 Boston 134 Indiana Phoenix 99 New Jersey 104 Philadelphia Detroit Portland

108 Milwaukee LA Lakers 131 Golden State 115 Ban commuted

GENEVA, March 10, (Reuter): French club Racing Strasbourg's three-season ban from European soccer compelitions for nonpayment of a transfer fee was com-muted on appeal to a 150,000 Swiss francs (\$100,000) fine today.

African Cup

ANNABA, Algeria, March 10, (Reuter): World Cup finalists Cameroun salvaged a degree of pride performance in the African Nations
Cup by beating Kenya 2-0 in the last
Group B match yesterday. The victory came after Cameroun, who face
holders Argentina, the Soviet Union
and Romania in the first round of the
World Cup finals in Italy had World Cup finals in Italy, had already been eliminated from the eight-nation African competition.

W. German soccer BONN, March 10. (Reuter): West German First Division soccer results

Kaiserslautern Eintracht F Hamburg SV Bayern Munich3 Fortuna D VFB Stuttgart Played Friday: FC Homburg 3 Borussia M 3

Borussia D

Konchellah out

COSFORD, England, March 10, (AP): Billy Konchellah of Kenya, the reigning world champion at 800 metres outdoors, was eliminated in the heats of the 800 metres last night at the British National Indoor Track and Field Championships.

NHL games

NEW YORK, March10, (Reuter): Results of National Hockey League (NHL) games played yesterday: Washington C4 Quebec N
Winnipeg Jets 7 Edmonton O
Vancouver C 4 Calgary F

Winning lead

MELBOURNE, Australia, March 10, (AP): Olympic champion Australia rallied to defeat South Korea 2-I yesterday and take a winning lead in a five-Test women's field bockey series between the two teams.

5-day match

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe, March 10, (Reuter): England A were 216 for two in their first innings at the close of the first day of their second five-day match against Zimbabwe today.

Tour opener

Townsville, Australia, March 10, (Reuter): Soviet second row forward Oleg Sapega was sent off today as his team opened their six-match Austrahan rugby union tour with a 22-21 win over Queensland Country.

Jansher overcomes court trouble to reach semifinals

SALZBURG, Austria, March 10, (Reuter): World ehampion Jansher Khan, on the verge of quitting after the first game because of a slippery court. went on to beat Chris Robertson of Australia in a gruelling two-hour quarter-final at the Austrian Open yes-

LONDON, March 10. (Reuter): Second Division Oldham

knocked last year's finalists Everton out of the Footbal!

Association (FA) Cup at the

third attempt today as Aston

Villa took over at the top of the

become the first Fourth Division team to make the semifinals

when they lost 1-0 at home to

First Division Crystal Palace in their Cup quarterfinal. Oldham, who reached the

League Cup final in midweek, continued their quest for a Wem-

bley double by bouncing back from behind to level 1-1 at full

time and then winning the fifth

round second replay with a penalty in extra time.
Villa's 2-0 win at home to

struggling Luton was their first win for three matches and sent

them two points clear of Cup

holders Liverpool, who play Queens Park Rangers in an FA

other quarterfinal away to Second Division Sheffield

Cambridge, whose players were promised a large bottle of

whisky as a victory bonus, kept

their hopes alive until the 77th

minute at home to First Division

Midfielder Geoff Thomas

broke the deadlock to give Palace

their first FA Cup semifinal place

aftergoing a goal down to relega-

tion-threatened Manchester

nine points behind Villa.

Champions Arsenal drew 1-1

Manchester United play the

Cup quarterfinal tomorrow.

United, also tomorrow.

But Cambridge failed to

Second Division

English First Division.

The Pakistani made a series of

unforced errors during the first game, which Robertson won 15-13. Jansher said later that he thought about retiring at that stage.

I made most of the mistakes because I was very scared of the floor which was very slippery. After a diseussion with Greg Hutchings, my manager, I decided to carry on for half

of the next game and see if I could play without doing so much running."

Jansher still looked far from com-

fortable as he went 6-9 down in the second game but he gained the upperhand as Robertson had problems with the treacherous underfoot conditions and fell twice against the walls of the

"Those two falls certainly had me scared," Robertson said. "But I never considered pulling out and simply changed my tactics so that I would not

chase around quite as much as I Both competitors continued to play with unusual restraint, Jansher win-ning the third game and Robertson the

However, the Australian was close to exhaustion in the deciding game and Jansher was able to clinch a 13-15 15-10 15-10 10-15 15-3 win after an hour

Tournament organiser Markus Gaebel said the flooring would be replaced for today's semifinals.

play Rodney Martin, a 12-15-15-7-15-10 15-8 winner over fellow Australian Rodney Eyles and world number one Jahangir Khan will play Chris Dittmar Both Jahangir and Dittmar worth their quarterfinals in straight games over Australians Breti Martin and

Tristan Nancarrow respectively.

Oldham stun Everton in FA Cup

Aston Villa move to top of table



2 at home by Midlands rivals Coventry, while England striker Gary Lineker scored his 20th goal of the season in Totten-ham's 3-0 defeat of Charlton.

Results English Football Association (FA) Cup narterfinals: Cambridge Q, Crystal Playing Sunday: Sheffield United v Manchester United, Queen's Park Rangers v Liverpoof,
Fifth round replay: Oldham 2, Everton ,
[(after extra time)

City to stay third in the League, Aston Villa Chelsea Man. City Notts Forest Luton Norwich But Nottingham Forest, thra-Arsenal shed 3-0 by a resurgent Arsenal in midweck, were again beaten 4-



Spurs' Chris Hutton (left) fends off Charlton's Scott Minto. (Reuter wirephoto)

Tottenham 3 Chariton 0
Postponed: Crystal Palace v Derby,
Liverpool v Wimbledon, Millwall v Everton, Sheffield Wednesday v Manchester
United, Southampton v Queen's Park

Newcastle

vision Two West Brom.



re	ed his 20th go	al o	f the season.	
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	Torquay	0	Scummorpe	3
	York	ī	Burnley	3
	Postnoned:	Car	lisle v Cambrid	ge.
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	Stockport	0	Wrexham .	. 2.
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	Raith	2	Morton	1
	Postponed:	Allo	z v Falkirk, Ay	T Y
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Queen's Park

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Dandee U Motherwell

BMW drive three past **Gulf English**

BMW finally silenced the scep-tics in the Kuwait Premier League when they trounced Gulf English 3-0 in a thrilling game at the Sahel Stadium last Sunday.

Gulf English, who have been both the most consistent and most fancied club for the League title so far this season, never settled into their normal thythm and were harassed from the kick off by a BMW team bubbling with confidence and exhibiting a determination to fight for every

The game had started rather cautiously with both teams ten-tatively probing each other's defence. However, the difference began to show between the two teams after about 15 minutes when Yoshiaki and Craft sliged open the Gulf defence down the left wing. Yoshiaki cleverly chipped the ball into the penalty area. and following the meice that ensued Quigly was there to hit the ball home.

Driven

The second goal was again a result of excellent work by the Anglo-Japanese duo, the ball was driven into the box and several short range shots at goal were stopped, the ultimate shot, being handled by defender Padraig Daly, which resulted in a penalty for BMW which was easily converted by Dave

The second half saw a slightly more determined Gulf side take the field and for the first tea minutes or so, they unnerved the BMW defence with fast flowing football. BMW managed to weather the Gulf attacks and hit back again through their captain Steve Kelly, who despite having a rather subdued game, pounced on a keeper serror to ram the ball

Wang and Kim become triple

SAPPORO, Japan, March 10, (AP): Chinese speed skater Song Chen upset world sprint champion Bac Ki-Tac of South Korea in the men's 500-metre race while Japan's durable star, Seiko Hashimoto, won the women's 500 metres today in the Asian Winter Games.

China kept the lead in the gold medals race by adding triumphs in three short track speeding skating races and the men's 20-kilometre

After two days of competition, the Chinese had seven golds, to five for Japan and four for South Korea.

China's Wang Xinlan and South Korea's Kim Ki-Hoon both became triple gold medallists in short track speed skating, with two individual triumphs and one relay gold Japan swept all medals in the men's Giant

Slalom skiing and the men's 15-kilometre cross country race, and won the men's 5,000 metre speed skating today, in addition to Hashimoto's victory.

South Korea, in the men's 1,000-metre short track race and the 5,000-metre relay.

Meanwhile, ice hockey competition began

today with Japan running up an 8-1 first period lead and beating South Korea 11-7. China needed two third-period goals to tie North Korea 6-6. In standard speed skating, Song won the

men's 500 metres in 38.14 seconds. Bae, who won the 1990 World Spring Championship on overall points without winning any single race, was second in 38.21 followed by Japan's Yasushi Kuroiwa and Yasunori Miyabe, tied

Japanese coach Makoto Hirose, who returned from China in December after working for two months with Song in a sports exchange programme, said the Chinese skater has a best time of 38.02.

Hashimoto, 25, second overall among the women in the 1990 World Speed Skating Championships, won her race today in 41.85, with teammate Kyoko Shimazaki, 18, the second in 42.08. South Korea's Yoo Soon-Hee was third in 42.22.

Huddersfield Northampton

Leyton Orient. Played Friday Chester

Grimsby Halifax

Playing Sunday:

Cardiff

Reading Wigan ision Four

Hereford

Japan's Kazuhiro Sato won the men's 5,000 metres in 7 minutes, 16.98 seconds, with China's Lu Shuhai well behind in 7:22.61 and South Korea's Oh Yong-Scok third in On the short track, South Korea's Kim Ki-

Hoon, who won the men's 1,500 metres yesterday, beat North Korea's Li Won Ho in the 1,000 metres today, 1 minute, 43.26 seconds to 1:43.50. South Korea's Kwon Young-Chul was third in 1:43.97. Wang Xiulan, already the women's 500-

metre champion, won the women's 1,000 yesterday in 1:49.36, followed by two South Koreans -- Lee Hyun-Jung in 1:49.42 and Chun Lee-Kyung in 1:49.55.

In the day's closest race, the men's 3,000, the top three finishers were within 0.03 seconds. Japan's Shuji Kawai won in 5:33.15, South Korea's Lee Joon-Ho was second in 5:33.17 and Japan's Jum Ucmatsu was third

camel race

Emirates, March 10, (AP): (10 million dirhams) will be distributed next week in a traditional annual camel race in Abu Dhabi.

Thousands of the best rac-Al Wathba town, 50 capital of Abu Dhabi.
The millions of dirhams

will be distributed to the winners of the race March 17-23.

The prizes will be distributed to the first 10 winner camels of the 98 rounds, after running eight to 10 kilometres (five to six miles).

\$2m prizes for

ABU DHABL, United Arab

ing camels will take part at the annual race to be held in the kilometres (31 miles) north of the United Arab Emirates

Kim had a hand in both of today's golds for 1990 world junior champion at 500 metres, Zurbriggen triumphs ress slams soccer

ABU DHABI, March 10, (Reuter): The United Arab Emirates soccer team. World Cup finalists who two weeks ago could do no wrong, can now do

no right. The United Arab Emirates press slammed the performance of their national team today after

they collapsed in a 6-1 defeat against Kuwait yesterday and finished last in the Gulf Cup soc-

pushed the UAE team back 18 years," said the semi-official Al lttihad newspaper.

cer tournament. "It was a black night. It has

"Who can believe it? Six shots

in the goal of one of the 24 best teams in the world," it said. The UAE received a hero's welcome last year when they returned in triumph from Sin-

Italy, in June. This time, they returned

said the mass circulation paper Al Khaleej. gapore, where they qualified for this year's World Cup finals in The UAE team is drawn against West Germany, Yugoslavia, and Colombia in the first round of the World Cup. "It is certain that the West German and Yugoslav delegations which came to Kuwait to watch the UAE team feel sorry now that they wasted their time buying the tickets," Al Ittihad

> Commentators at the match found the UAE performance dull and uninspiring in both attack and defence. The UAE Football Association was due to hold an emergency meeting today. Official sports sources said they expected decision to fire Polish coach Bernard Blautt, who took over from Brazilian Mario Zagalo at

under the cover of night. The

final game was painful, the place

was last, the wound was deep,'

the start of the year. The Gulf Cup is held once every two years and nothing went right this year for the UAE, who were hoping to use it as a showcase for their talents ahead of the World Cup.

Kuwait won the cup, followed by Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman.

HEMSEDAL, Norway, March 10, (AP): Pirmin Zurbriggen wants to retire from ski racing at the peak and he did it today, wrapping up the World Cup Super G Championship by winning the event's season finale.

The Swiss all-round star, who clinched a record-tying fourth overall title last weekend, had a narrow .05-second winning-margin in his farewell Super G race.

It was the eighth speciality title for the 27-year-old Zurbriggen, one of the few skiers to have won races in all four World Cup disciplines.

"This victory brings a lot of pride and joy for me, but it's hard to compare with the others," Zurbriggen said. "I'm happy with all my

Zurbriggen flashed down the Bergaloypa track, shortened by 458 metres to 1.710 metres because of strong winds at the top of the course, in I minute, 05.57 seconds. It was the 29th World Cup race victory for Zurbriggen, who also has

won 11 combined — a "paper" event determined by adding together downhill and slalom results. Karl Alpiger, starting 26th, made it a Swiss double, clocking 1:05.62. Hans Stuffer of West Germany was third, 23 behind Zurbriggen. Gunther Mader of Austria, who trailed Zurbriggen by 12 points before the race, took himself out of it by only managing sixth in 1:05.98. He kept second-place in the Snper G standings with 71 points.

Zurbriggen finished with 98 points. Third went to Lars-Borje Eriksson of Sweden at 61 and fourth to Olympic champion Franck Piccard of France at 52 points.

Eriksson was 1 Ith today while Piccard, who also had a mathematical chance for the title, finished out of the points (38th).

After winning the overall, which tied Italian Custavo Thom's record from the early 1970s, Zurbriggen said how important it was for him to

retire while he was a potential winner.

He proved that today, posting the second fastest intermediate down the course before a strong finish en route to his third victory in six Super

G races this season. Zurbriggen announced his retirement prior to the start of this season and "I don't regret my decision," he said after today's win. "I already won everything you can think about in skiing," he said. "I would only repeat my wins if I go on.

which will be conducted by Mr. Edwin Austin of Eastman Kodak Co., U.S.A., in co-operation with Kuwait University and under the nuspices of Dr. Rasha H.J. Al-Sabah Ph.D. Vice Rector Community Service & Information Location: Kuwait University - Shawaikh University Foculty Chub Date: 10, 11 and 12th March, 1990. Time: Starting ot 5.00 - 8.00 pm.

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